

AMMAN (AP) — A group of Israeli militants gatecrashed a wedding in a hotel in Amman on Friday, killing three people and wounding 13 others, police said.

Filipino diplomat loses job after being manhandled

MANILA (AP) — A Filipino diplomat in Amman has been dismissed from his post after being manhandled by a Jordanian official, the Philippine government said.

Teacher rapped for trampling Christ image

JERUSALEM (AP) — A teacher in Israel has been charged with trampling on a religious image, a court official said.

Islamic Jihad forms 'suicide squad'

BEIRUT (AP) — An Islamic militant group has formed a 70-member suicide squad to carry out attacks against Israeli troops in Palestinian self-rule areas, an official for the group said.

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تلغراف يومية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرائي

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Price: Jordan 150 Fils

13 killed, 200 wounded in PNA-Hamas clash in Gaza

Violent confrontation fuels fears of Palestinian civil war

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — Palestinian police opened fire Friday on thousands of worshippers outside a mosque and clashed with rock-throwing Islamic militants in running street battles. At least 13 people were killed and more than 200 wounded.

Police rounded up about 300 Islamic militants. Police fired on angry, stone-throwing crowd outside police headquarters, Gaza's central prison and thousands of demonstrators also gathered outside police headquarters in Gaza City and threw stones, some accusing the PNA of serving Israeli interests.

Collaborators, they shouted. The Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas had planned a demonstration at the mosque, a centre of resistance to autonomy, but security forces had surrounded the area.

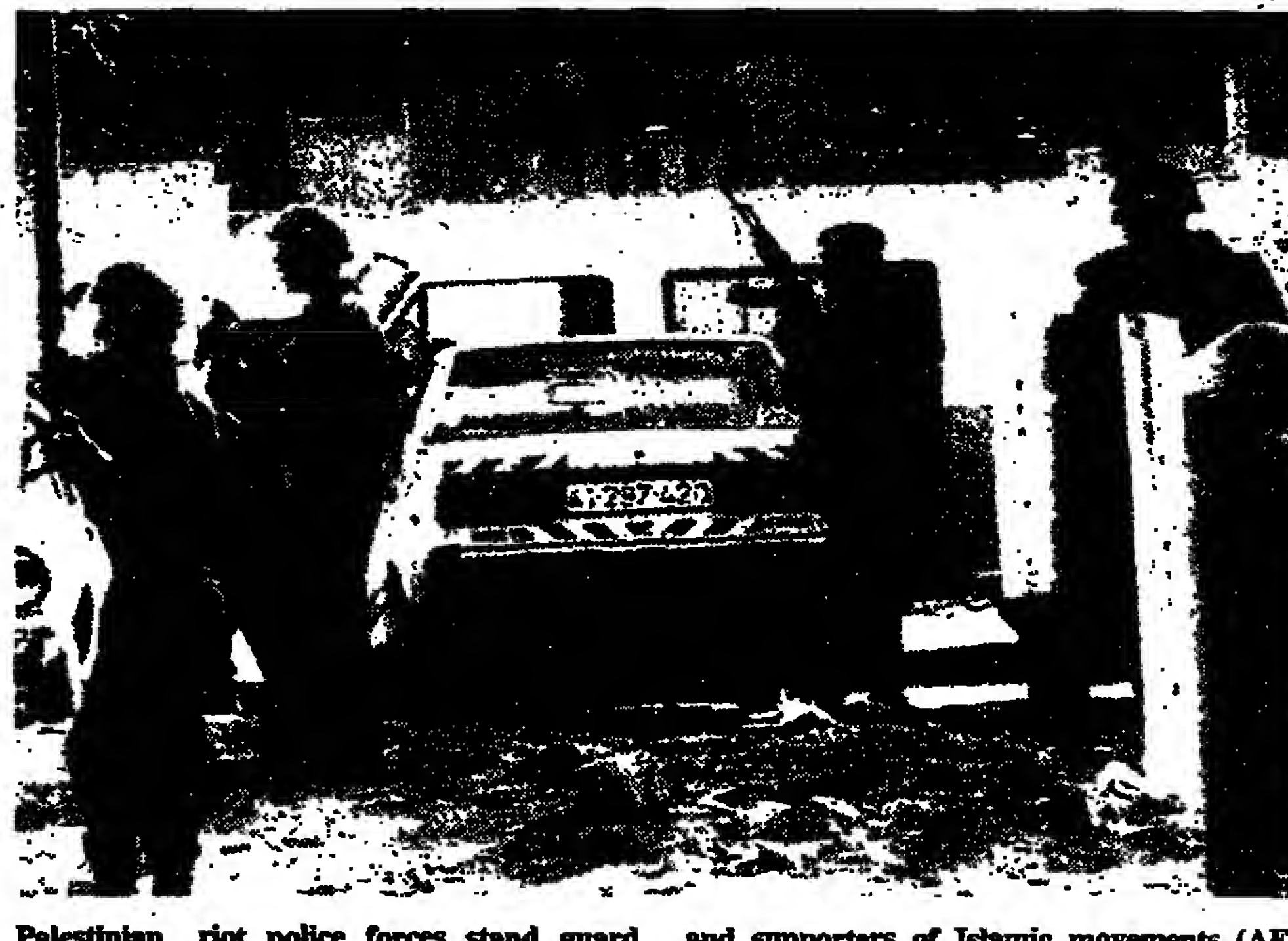


Hamas supporters throw stones at Palestinian policemen during clashes in Gaza City on Friday (AFP photo)

Shaath: PNA cannot disarm opposition

MINISTER OF International Cooperation in the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) Nabil Shaath said Thursday the PNA cannot disarm Islamic groups in Palestine and refuses to be a "tool in the hands of Israel" to strike at all Islamic opposition groups.

In a press conference held in Cairo, Dr. Shaath said "due to Israel's failure to respect the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, we do not enjoy any public support to disarm the opposition groups or take tough measures against them."



Palestinian riot police forces stand guard and supporters of Islamic movements (AFP photo) blocking a street in Gaza on Friday following heavy clashes between Palestinian policemen

Israeli team leaves after talks on diplomatic, economic ties

Formal relations to be announced on Nov. 27

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

peace talks Mohammad Shahriri

AMMAN — An Israeli delegation left Amman on Friday after talks with Jordanian officials that produced an agreement that the two countries would announce the establishment of diplomatic relations on Nov. 27 and open embassies in each other's capitals on Dec. 10.

The Israeli delegation was led by Uri Savir, director-general of the foreign ministry, and included senior advisors and officials from the foreign and finance ministries.

This would involve building dams and a water purification/desalination plant at a total cost of around \$150 million.

MECC elects new leader

LIMASSOL (AP) — The Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) Friday elected the Rev. Riad Jarjour as its new general secretary, replacing Gabriel Habib, who has held the post since 1977.

Most Security Council states favour lifting sanctions — Aziz

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz said Friday that most of the 15 members of the Security Council favour lifting the sanctions against his country, indicating that only the United States and Britain were preventing it.

Mr. Aziz said the council's official response to Iraq's recognition of Kuwait was much less enthusiastic than most members had wanted.

France, Britain set up joint air command

CHARTERS, France (AFP) — France and Britain announced Friday they were setting up a new joint air command to coordinate bilateral action in troubled spots around the world, but said the move posed no threat to North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) solidarity.

Paris denies report of FIS contact

PARIS (AFP) — The French foreign ministry Friday denied a report that envoys sent by Prime Minister Edouard Balladur had contacted the outlawed Algerian Islamic Salvation Front (FIS).

House finance panel chairman welcomes customs duty cuts

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Ali Abul Ragheb, chairman of the Financial Committee of the Lower House of Parliament, said Friday the government's recent decision to reduce customs duties on cars and more than 300 other items were intended to address deformities in the Jordanian economy.

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U.N. troops prepared to fight their way out of Somalia

MOGADISHU (AFP) — U.N. troops in this lawless Somali capital are preparing to fight their way out if necessary, said one senior U.N. official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"I think it is clear the factions will fight for control of the port and the airport where U.N. troops are stationed, said one senior U.N. official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Soldiers also said they deemed it likely that they would have to defend themselves as they left, with armed Somali militia probably trying to loot U.N. equipment as well as fighting each other for control of key points.

Plans are being drawn up to have troops from NATO countries such as the United States, France and Italy cover the withdrawal of the last of the 15,000 U.N. soldiers still here, U.N. officials said.

The departure of the "Blue Helmets" follows the failure of Somalia's two principal warlords, General Mohammed Farah Aided and self-styled President Ali Mahdi Mohammed, to agree on a government of national unity.

U.N. Special Representative Victor Ghebho of Ghana said in an interview earlier this week that he expected "reality to dawn" on both men with an agreement to set up a unified government before the U.N. force departed, but added that "I wouldn't like to put a penny on any bet on what happens on April 1."

Mr. Ghebho said the withdrawal support force would be mainly amphibious, with landing ships carrying tanks lying offshore, and with weaponry force capable of destroying any tanks being used by the Somali factions. The force would strike only if the departing troops came under attack, he said, adding that he expected at least one aircraft carrier.

Other officials said the United States had been asked to provide a marine amphibious force, and that helicopter

gunships would hover overhead as the last troops left.

General Aboo Samar Bakar, the Malaysian commander of the U.N. force, told AFP that he himself would be the last soldier to leave Mogadishu.

Both the port and airport are in Aided territory in south Mogadishu, but access to both can be blocked by militias loyal to Mr. Ali Mahdi, who holds the north of the capital.

Gen. Aided and Mr. Ali Mahdi are still in deadlock. Contacts between the two sides continue, but the most recent ended in "total disagreement," Mr. Ali Mahdi in an interview Wednesday, accusing Gen. Aided of "megalomania" and "obstinacy."

"We have been trying until now to break the impasse," Ghebho said, "but at the weekend it became clear the SNA (Aided's Somali National Alliance) was not prepared to accept suggestion from the SSA (Ali Mahdi's Somali Salvation Alliance). So the impasse continues."

Clan leaders supporting Gen. Aided pledged Sunday that they would cooperate to enforce security to enable the U.N. force to leave in an orderly and safe manner, but warned that the presence of support troops could open an unending progression of troops in and out of Somalia.

Mr. Ghebho retorted in the interview that the clan leaders were in no position to object to U.N. safety measures, adding that "the Security Council is not infusing another U.N. force into Somalia."

The U.N. soldiers will be leaving behind an 8,500-strong Somali police force they have trained and thousands of civilians now working for the United Nations and its contractors. They will also hand over to elders or regional authorities the keys to the jails they have set up.

The United Nations will pay the police "up to the day we leave, but there is no question of any payment beyond

that," Mr. Ghebho said, acknowledging that both police and civilian staff could "turn into bandits."

The U.N. force has already had trouble with Somali employees, officials said.

Mr. Ghebho said U.N. personnel would be careful not to hand over jail keys to the wrong people because "that would be an invitation to slaughter the prisoners like sheep."

Canada to probe charges Canadian Defence Minister David Collette set up a public inquiry Thursday into allegations that Canadian soldiers serving in the U.N. mission brutally tortured young Somalis.

The announcement came one day after a Canadian military doctor who served in the U.N. mission in March 1993 told a newspaper that senior officers had ordered the destruction of photographs showing soldiers torturing Somalis.

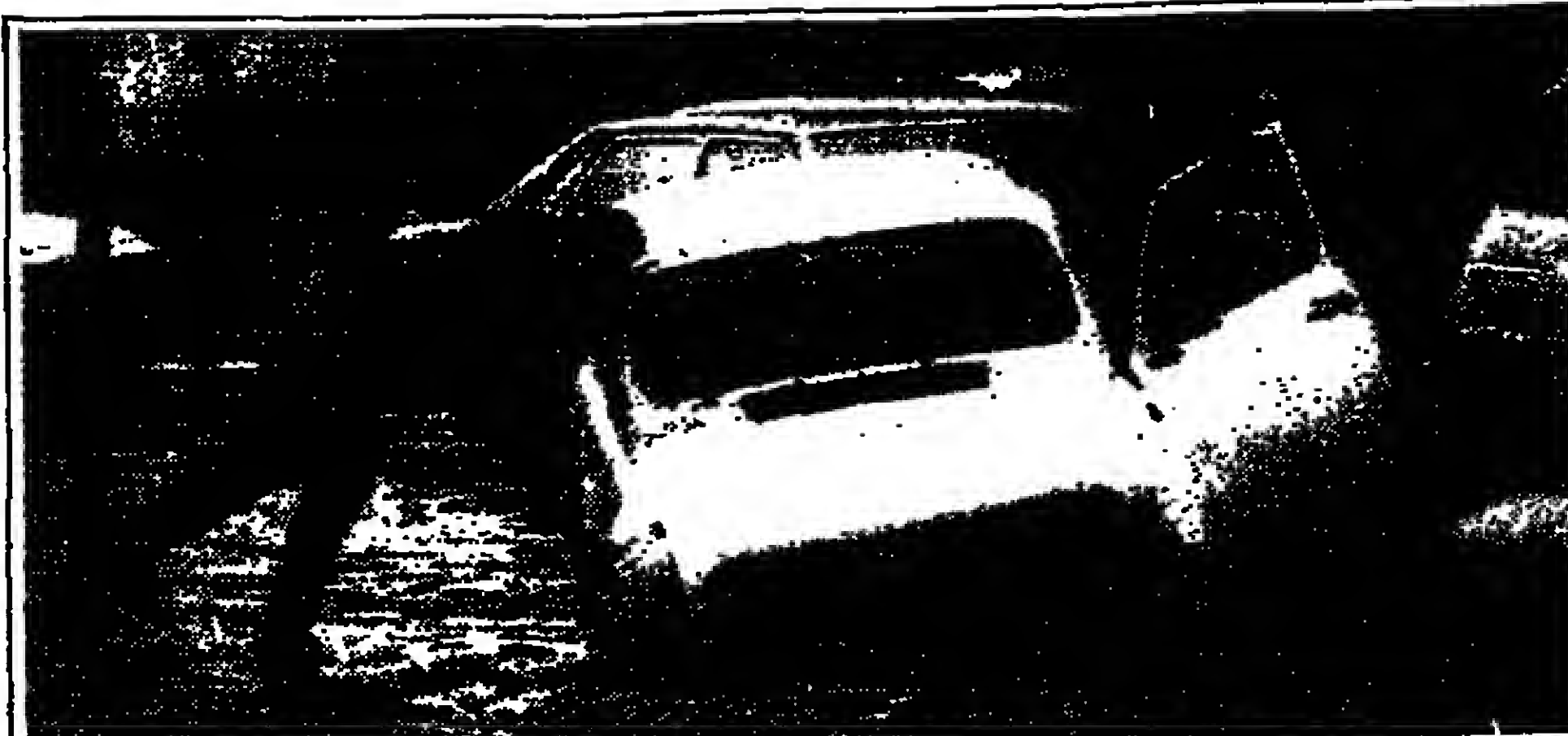
Major Barry Armstrong said in an interview to the Ottawa Sun that the orders were given as part of an attempt by the Canadian military to cover up widespread acts of torture and violence in Somalia.

Mr. Collette urged Maj. Armstrong and other members of the armed forces who might have information in the case to "make that evidence known to the military police."

The defence minister said the inquiry panel would be headed by a civilian but did not specify when it would begin work.

Officials said the Defence Ministry would await the outcome of an appeal launched by two soldiers who were convicted by a military tribunal before setting plans for the inquiry in motion.

In his remarks to the Ottawa Sun, Maj. Armstrong stated categorically that officers wanted to get rid of the photographs taken at the village of Belet Huen.



FLOODS IN GAZA: Palestinian residents try Gaza City as bad weather continued in the to save their cars in the overflooded streets of region Thursday (AFP photo)

Aid groups to stay in Somalia

GENEVA (R) — United Nations, governmental and independent aid organisations said on Thursday they were determined to maintain operations in conflict-torn Somalia despite a withdrawal next March by the U.N. peacekeeping force UNOSOM.

But they declared they would resist efforts by militias to extract protection payments and would insist that local Somali leaders ensure security for rehabilitation and medical projects and their international and national staff.

Speaking on behalf of organisations working in Somalia and currently in conference in Geneva, Richard McCall of the United States USAID body told reporters: "We can't say if UNOSOM is leaving, we are leaving: we are not."

Pierce Gerety, of the U.N. Children's Fund, (UNICEF), said his organisation intended "to continue our programmes and promote immunisation, health care, nutrition and basic education for Somali children and families."

They spoke at a news conference during a session of the Somalia Aid Coordination Body (SACB) which links donor countries, U.N. agencies and non-governmental organisations promoting reconstruction in the African state.

Over recent weeks, some groups with projects in Somalia

— which has had no government since 1991 when dictator Mohammed Siad Barre was overthrown — have expressed fears of chaos and looting when UNOSOM is gone.

But Mr. McCall, Mr. Gerety and representatives of other groupings in the Nairobi-based SACB indicated that local and regional communities were increasingly ready to prevent militias interfering with aid operations.

And they suggested that new leaders were emerging in the country's regions and sub-regions who could help put together a new structure for the country's administration and ensure aid was not diverted to fuel a war economy.

SACB had agreed that local Somali authorities must guarantee and provide security for aid operations, said Mr. McCall, who chaired the Geneva meeting. If they could not, it was being made clear that foreign agencies would not be able to work there.

"We have agreed that it is time for the Somalis to take us if they want us in their region," said Marc Guillaud of the charity Medicins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) Belgium which runs hospitals and medical centres in Somalia.

In an interview this week, SACB Standing Committee Chairman Sigurd Illing said

he saw the best hope for the future of the country — where tens of thousands died in a famine in 1991 and 1992 — in the emergence of a regional-based federation.

Power in Mogadishu, the capital, is disputed between warlords Mohammed Farah Aided and Ali Mahdi Mohammed. But Mr. Illing, the European Union's Kenya-based envoy to Somalia, said many Somalis were opposed to recreating a centralised state.

Mr. McCall told Thursday's news conference it was "time to give the Somalis room to reach their own decisions and solutions. No framework could be imposed from the outside through setting deadlines for negotiations."

"I think is a mistake to assume that in a certain time period you're going to get a certain result," he declared.

When the U.N. peacekeeping effort was launched in December 1992 with the arrival of U.S. forces, the aim was to achieve the establishment of a new government within 18 months.

But that aim was frustrated by fierce clan fighting in Mogadishu and other cities. Some diplomats who follow Somali affairs say the U.N. is still placing too much emphasis on getting accord between the faction leaders in the capital.

Israel, Palestinian nerves fray over police march

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Thursday accused each other of not being committed to peace in a row over Palestinian police who shouted their claim to cities deep inside the Jewish state in a military-style ceremony.

Israel complained to the Palestinian self-rule authority over the incident, the latest to fray nerves on both sides. Palestinian leaders counter-attacked that Israel was blowing the incident out of all proportion.

The row blew up two days after PLO leader Yasser Arafat, in what appeared to be a slip of the tongue, publicly referred to "the Israeli enemy" in a speech in Gaza commemorating Palestinian independence day.

Film shot by Reuters at a police graduation ceremony in the other Palestinian-ruled enclave of Jericho on Tuesday and broadcast on Israeli Television the next day showed scores of police in military fatigues.

Witnesses said they chanted the names of Haifa and Beit Shean, cities inside Israel.

Jibril Rajoub, head of Mr. Arafat's secret police in the West Bank, said in an interview on Israeli Television: "I think to make a story of that is not good will on the part of the media in Israel."

"People will sing. What is this? It's all that bothersome that a man says Ashdod or doesn't say Haifa?" he added.

For Israelis, the scene vividly evoked fears the PLO was not really committed to accepting the existence of Israel, as agreed in last year's peace treaty, but dreamed one day of recovering all of Palestine.

Another cause of irritation came on Thursday when

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin linked Palestinian elections to the PLO carrying out its commitment to alter parts of its charter calling for the destruction of Israel.

Palestinian leaders accused Israel of delaying elections, the next major step in the peace agreement, out of an unwillingness to implement a pledged troop redeployment in the West Bank by the eve of balloting.

Israel and the PLO recognised each other last year when they made peace, but for many on both sides the memory of decades of fighting remains powerful. Each side keenly watches the other for signs of the old hostility.

A spokesman said the Israeli army formally complained to the Palestinian self-rule authority in Gaza and Jericho about the police ceremony.

At the parade ground, the crowd applauded Jawad Shahwan, a former activist in Mr. Arafat's Fatah group, as he gave a martial arts demonstration. Israel said he was wanted for the killing of several Palestinians suspected of collaborating with it.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, an Israeli peace negotiator, said the accord with the PLO stipulated Palestinians must submit the name of every policeman for vetting by Israel.

"If we have objections, he cannot enlist. It is perfectly clear that as long as there are violations and they are not rectified, it is impossible to continue," Mr. Sarid told Israel Radio, referring to further peace moves.

Ahmad Tibi, an Arab Israeli adviser to Mr. Arafat, said Israeli hostility to peace were exaggerating incidents to destroy confidence in the peace agreement.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Turkish vote scheduled for Dec 4 postponed

ANKARA (AFP) — Turkish electoral authorities have postponed partial legislative elections on Dec. 4 after the high court overturned a law denying the right to vote to residents of the southeast who have been forced to leave their village because of the Kurdish rebellion. The head of the electoral council, Othman Yavuz, said Thursday the vote was postponed to allow parliament time to work out new legislation. The elections are for 22 vacant parliamentary seats, 15 of them in the southeast, where Kurdish separatists and Turkish security forces are locked in a bitter bloody struggle. Ninety-three deputies from different parties had asked the constitutional court to strike down the legislation. The pro-Kurdish People's Democratic Party announced earlier this month that it would boycott the elections, fearing they would not be democratically organised.

Israelis to teach security in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — In the wake of two deadly bombing attacks in Buenos Aires, Israeli security experts will give classes on protection of potential targets, an Israeli embassy official said Thursday. The private, Tel Aviv-based Professional School of Security has been authorised by the Israel defence Ministry to open a training school in Buenos Aires, a spokesperson for Israeli Military Attaché Meir Zamir told the Associated Press. Neither the embassy nor the ministry will be involved with the school, the spokesperson said in a phone interview. On July 17, a bomb destroyed the seven-story building of Argentina's main Jewish community centre, killing 95 people. In March 1992, another bomb razed the Israeli embassy, killing 28. Investigations have proved inconclusive and no one has been convicted for either crime, although authorities have blamed Middle East-based groups.

Assad's son appointed tank commander

DAMASCUS (AFP) — The son of Syrian President Hafez al Assad was Thursday appointed commander of a tank battalion in the Syrian army, the official news agency SANA reported. Captain Bashar al Assad was promoted during a ceremony at Homs in northern Syria attended by General Moustapha Tlass, Syrian defence minister. Bashar al Assad, 28, was pushed into the limelight following the death of his elder brother Bassel, who was being groomed for the succession, in an automobile accident last January. In a speech shortly after his brother's death, Bashar pledged to continue working "for the dignity and honour of the country."

Washington upbeat about Mideast peace process

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Two State Department officials gave an upbeat assessment Wednesday of the ongoing Middle East peace process in the wake of President Clinton's historic Mideast tour earlier this month and the results of the recent Casablanca economic summit which was attended by Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

The two spoke on background at the Foreign Press Centre, requesting that they be identified as "State Department officials." Their briefing covered the Middle East peace process, the economic summit conference in Morocco earlier this month, and U.S. assistance to the Palestinian Authority, now in control of the self-rule areas in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

At U.S. urging, one of the officials reported, the donors who have pledged but have not fully paid their share of the \$2.4 billion last year to help the fledgling Palestinian Authority will be meeting in Brussels on Nov. 29 to consider the whole issue of start-up funds.

"We spent some time in recent weeks working with the Palestinians to develop an agreed-upon budget which could be presented to the donors and which would identify a gap that the donors

would then be prepared to fund," he explained. "We hope to have the donors come together and pledge new assistance in order to meet this gap on start-up costs," he said.

In reply to a question on the donors' reported concern over the Authority's lack of "transparency and accountability," he said the United States has worked hard with the World Bank and the Palestinians on setting up "mechanisms of transfer the assistance that we feel meet these standards of transparency and accountability."

The briefing Wednesday came on the eve of the visit here of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who will be meeting with President Clinton and Congressional leaders next week following the Republican Party's sweep of this month's national elections, which resulted in their control of the two U.S. legislatures for the first time in decades.

The officials pointed to "extremely encouraging strides" in the peace process and the multilateral tracks, which involve delegations from several Arab countries, Israel, Europe, Japan, Russia and the United States.

They said there have been "very significant achievements" both on the human and psychological levels in

terms of breaking down barriers that have existed for decades between Israel and the Arab states.

They noted that the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty — witnessed by President Clinton during ceremonies in Wadi Arabi, Jordan — demonstrated that "direct negotiations are the best route to peace." In this respect, they added, the United States is "very pleased and proud" of its "catalytic" role in facilitating these negotiations.

Secretary of State Christopher is slated to make another trip to the Middle East before the end of the year but the officials did not provide a date or a venue for the trip.

As to the economic summit in Morocco, the officials expressed satisfaction with the turnout at the three-day meeting — 61 countries were represented — and its Casablanca Declaration.

The basic message coming from Casablanca, one of the officials said, was that the Middle East was now open for business since "the political problems which have prevented regional interaction are beginning to go away."

He added that "in the coming months" a follow up meeting of experts will look into the conference's agreement "to examine the idea of

a regional development bank." No date was announced.

Additionally, a steering committee of the key participants will be meeting later this month to look into the summit agreement to set up a regional tourism board and a chamber of commerce or business council "to help cement the business ties that were developed in Casablanca."

U.S. assistance to the Palestinian Authority, one of the officials reported, will total \$500 million over five years. This year, he explained, the United States obligated \$25 million for start-up costs which have been paid directly to the World Bank's Holst Fund, named after the late Norwegian foreign minister who was instrumental in arranging the Israeli-Palestinian secret peace talks last year.

A second portion of \$50 million has been obligated to development projects, including the construction of a housing project in Gaza, and rehabilitation of schools and clinics in refugee camps has been paid through the World Bank and U.S. private voluntary organisations with "a long track record" in the West Bank and Gaza.

The remainder, \$25 million, was allocated for pro-

jects initiated by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC). This U.S. government agency has subsequently been instrumental in launching nine projects by private investors representing a capital investment of \$100 million with the potential of generating 5,000 jobs in the Palestinian areas.

Turning to the activities of the five multilateral working groups, the other official pointed out that their significance lay in their "tearing down some of the psychological and political barriers" between Arabs and Israelis; consequently precipitating "meetings in corners of rooms between people in the same field — hydrologists, environmentalists, scientists, arms control experts."

At the Bahrain meeting last month of the multilateral environmental group, he reported, a non-binding agreement was reached on "a code of conduct" for the Middle East, the first such code that has been agreed to anywhere in the region.

This group is now working on contingency arrangements dealing with oil spills, particularly in the Gulf of Aquaba; desertification, and waste water treatment.

Bahrain, he said, will be shortly holding a meeting to establish a regional environ-

mental centre there, and Jordan wants to follow suit.

The United States will also be leading a team to Cairo focusing on environmental health and pesticides, he added.

In the water resources group, the official reported that Oman has plans to create a regional desalination research centre in Muscat and that Israel has also identified specific sites for an Israel-led project on rehabilitating municipal water supply systems.

A regional water data bank, supported financially by the United States and Canada, has also been endorsed by this multilateral group at their Athens meeting last month.

The arms control and regional security group, he continued, will be working at its next plenary session in Tunis next month on "a major region-wide declaration" on arms control and regional security.

"Significant progress has been made and it will be a positive statement," the official said.

Other issues to be taken up in Tunis include the establishment of a regional centre for conflict prevention and regional security, and cooperation on search and rescue at sea.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:00 Alice Au Pays Merveilles
17:30 Us Pour Tous
18:00 Le Vent De Morts
18:30 News in French
19:15 Grand Galop
19:30 Harry and the Hendersons
20:00 Doc. "Innovation"
20:10 Murder she Wrote
20:30 Quantum Leap
21:00 News in English
21:30 Feature film: "Shadow of a Doubt"
23:59 Major Card

PRAYER TIMES

6:42 Sunrise
11:21 Sunrise
14:15 Sunrise
16:40 Sunrise
18:00 Sunset

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Swedish, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 677446
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terresant Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel.

623541
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 652526
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624328
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654992
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Temperatures will rise slightly

with clouds appearing at different altitudes, and winds becoming southerly light to moderate. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp. Amman 6/20
Agaba 10/28
Deserts 4/27
Jordan Valley 10/27
Yesterday's high temperatures:

Church of the Annunciation Tel.

623541
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 652526
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624328
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654992
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691
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Jordan Valley 10/27
Yesterday's high temperatures:

AMMAN:
Dr. Muhlebach Mazharah 820425
Dr. Khalil Jbali 740740
Dr. Ramzi Mzawi 794788
Dr. Khalil Tashq 615715
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asama pharmacy 637055
Naboukha pharmacy 626272
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660
Najib pharmacy 847632

IRBID:
Dr. Fayed Al Oadi 248743
Alquds pharmacy (—)
ZARQA:
Dr. Hisham Hyasat 982440
Khulafiy pharmacy 982417

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Amman 18, Agaba 25 Humidity readings: Amman 41 per cent, Agaba 33 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Muhlebach Mazharah 820425
Dr. Khalil Jbali 740740
Dr. Ramzi Mzawi 794788
Dr. Khalil Tashq 615715
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asama pharmacy 637055
Naboukha pharmacy 626272
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660
Najib pharmacy 847632

IRBID:
Dr. Fayed Al Oadi 248743
Alquds pharmacy (—)
ZARQA:
Dr. Hisham Hyasat 982440
Khulafiy pharmacy 982417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 77101
Blood Bank 77101
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 63921
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage Complaints 87467
Amman Municipality Complaints 787111
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
(Directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 674421

RJ Flight Information

08-33200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-33200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 81831/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Ann 6442816
Akileh Maternity, J. Ann 6424412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Ann 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 6611714
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 843845
Al-Muasher Hospital 672219
The Islamic, Abdali 66612757
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Muasher 7710163
Al-Bashir, J. Ann 7711176
Army, Marka 891611715
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarga National Hospital (09)986732
Jbn Sias Hospital (09)900560
Al-Hilana Modern Hospital (09)986732
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:45 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)
06:15 Agaba (RJ)
09:25 Dhahran (RJ)
09:40 New Delhi (RJ)
09:55 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
10:25 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
16:05 London (RJ)
16:30 Cairo (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:20 Vienna (OS)
15:45 Rome, Larnaca (AZ)
18:15 Dubai (EK)
19:00 Sanaa (Y)
19:05 Larnaca (CY)
20:20 Beirut (ME)
21:2

House condemns partitioning of Ibrahimi Mosque

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament issued a statement condemning Israel's partitioning of Al Ibrahimi Mosque, in the occupied city of Hebron, as a flagrant aggression on the rights of Arabs and Muslims.

The statement, issued Thursday, said that the Israeli move contradicted the provisions of the peace process which is supposed to bring about stability and security and restore legitimate rights to their lawful owners.

The Israelis reopened the mosque of Nov. 7, nine months after a Jewish settler machinegunned more than 30 Muslims as they knelt in prayer.

The Israeli authorities have assigned separate sections for Jews and Muslims, and tightened security around and inside the shrine.

The Parliament statement said that the Jews have no right at all to pray in the mosque and their presence there is a major obstacle in the path of restoring peace and security.

The partitioning of the mosque, one of the holiest places for Muslims, has angered all Muslims who never faced any problem in exercising their full rights at the mosque even under the British Mandate, said the statement.

It said that the encroachment on Al Ibrahimi Mosque was a sacrilege brought to the Islamic holy places and encouraged the Jewish settlers around Hebron to seize Arab homes and other property in the city and force the Arab population to leave.

The statement considered the partitioning of the mosque as a reward by the government of Israel to the Jewish settlers for their crime against the Muslim worshippers and could serve as a precedent for Jewish seizures of other holy sites in Palestine.

The statement called on the Arab states and Muslim nations to end their differences and join hands in foiling attempts on their holy places.

It urged Arab and Muslim leaders to exercise all forms of pressure on the Israeli government to rescind its measures for the Ibrahimi Mosque.

Jordan takes part in London exhibition

AMMAN (J.T.) — Dr. Mohammad Adwan, Minister of tourism and antiquities, visited the Jordanian stand at the World Travel Market exhibition which was held in London between Nov. 14-17.

The WTM exhibition is considered one of the most important tourism exhibitions in Europe where over 5,500 organisations from 160 countries participate. The WTM is visited by 1,800 media representatives and 45,000 tourism and travel specialists.

Jordan's participation which started in 1980, aims at introducing and promoting the Kingdom's touristic attractions. The Jordanian stand has been organised by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities in cooperation with the Royal Jordanian airline and a number of representatives from the tourism private sector in Jordan.

The Jordanian stand was visited by a very large number of people. Dr. Adwan visited a number of Arab countries' stands as well as the Israeli stand. The Royal Jordanian folklore troupe has contributed to attracting visitors to the Jordanian stand.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor Thursday attended a concert by the Cologne Choral troupe, held at the Royal Cultural Centre to mark the King's birthday. Also attending the concert, which was organised by the Ministry of Culture, were prime minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's military Secretary Prince Talal Ben Mohammad and Princess Ghida, the King's Cultural Advisor Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad and senior government officials. Minister of Culture Juma' Hammad presented King Hussein a symbolic gift and the troupe director presented the King with a medal on the occasion.

JEA, JICA train Palestinian engineers

AMMAN (J.T.) — In recognition of the importance of granting technical assistance to the Palestinian people, Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), with support from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), has started a training course for Palestinian engineers in the field of electric power.

The course, the first of its kind in Jordan, was especially designed by JEA and JICA for the Palestinian engineers. The training aims at providing the 20 participants with essential knowledge and techniques regarding construction and maintenance of the distribution networks of the electric power, which will be the basic infrastructure in the autonomous region.

The lectures and practical work will be given and supervised by the JEA officials. The course will last until March 1995, and accommodation will be provided to all the engineers. The Japanese government, through JICA, bears the cost of \$160,000 for this programme.

The realisation of this assistance from Japan stems from Japan's firm support for the development in this region, especially in the new era of peace, the Japanese embassy said in a statement. Japan has so far offered a number of technical cooperation programmes to Jordan, amounting to over \$70 million. For 1993 alone, technical cooperation projects from Japan to Jordan reached about \$8 million.

The opening ceremony was held at the JEA headquarters on Nov. 17 and was attended by Talal Ureigat, minister of energy and mineral resources and Yuji Ikeda, ambassador of Japan.

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first consignment of Jordanian tomatoes will head for Israel Sunday or Monday after an agreement has been reached on a \$2 per kilogramme price, the head of the Jordan Agricultural Marketing Corporation (JAMCO), Salem Al lawzi, said Friday.

Mr. Lawzi said JAMCO, a government agency, was not formally involved in the negotiations between the exporters and importer but he was told "unofficially" that an agreement was reached on the price.

"I expect the first consignment to leave Jordan on Sunday or Monday," Mr. Lawzi told the Jordan Times, adding that he did not have further details.

It will be the first Jordanian exports to Israel. The two countries signed a peace treaty on Oct. 26 and the treaty was fully formalised and ratified on Nov. 10, clearing the way for diplomatic relations and economic cooperation including trade ties.

Israel turned to Jordan for its needs of tomatoes this month after imposing a ban on produce from its traditional sources in the Gaza Strip, citing a cholera outbreak there. The ban led to serious shortages of tomatoes in Israel since the

found dead Thursday in a hotel room in the downtown of Amman, according to a police report.

According to the report, the owner of the hotel told police that he had become worried about one of his clients as he did not leave room for two consecutive days.

He said he went with one of his employees to check on the man. When the man did not answer, the knock on the door, the report said, the hotel owner knocked the door down and found the man slumped over the table.

The forensic exam estimated the death had occurred 36 hours before. The body was transferred to Al Bashir Hospital for autopsy.

The report did not mention the name of the victim or the hotel, but said that police are investigating the incident.

In a separate incident, police are investigating the mysterious death of a 32-year-old man who was

found dead Thursday in a hotel room in the downtown of Amman, according to a police report.

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First tomato consignment to leave for Israel this week

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

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summer peak season exceeds 4,000 tonnes per day, dropping to around 1,000 tonnes in winter season. This explains the low prices in summer and the high prices in winter.

However, haphazard exports without proper quality controls now — when the market has largely medium and low-quality tomatoes — could set back hopes for large Israeli import orders in the summer.

The shortage of tomatoes has shot up prices in Israel to nearly \$3 per kilogramme and prompted a Gallup poll on the market trend.

The poll, whose results were published by the Jerusalem Post, found that 19 per cent of the public had stopped buying tomatoes because of the high price and another 25 per cent had significantly cut their consumption.

Only 25 per cent of the 350 Israelis polled said they were continuing to buy tomatoes as usual.

Israel radio reported that 90 per cent of the over 2,000 people responding to a call-in survey said they would be willing to abstain from consuming tomatoes until the price drops.

Israeli Finance Minister Avraham Shohat has appealed to Israelis to fight inflation and stop buying tomatoes to stem the increase in price.

asked Mr. Badawi, who is shooting for a more than \$2 a kilo price from Israelis for his tomatoes.

If an agreement is reached with Israelis, Mr. Badawi said, he will be in a position to send 60 tonnes a week to Israel across the "Jordan River bridge" crossing in the north, which was opened on Nov. 10. The crossing at the old Sheikh Hussein Bridge will be the main access for cargo movement between the two countries.

Mr. Badawi said his firm could also offer aubergines, green peppers and other vegetables to Israel, but he had not received any inquiries.

In general, market analysts believe that the specifications set by the Israeli importers could help Jordanian exporters diversify their exports if only because they would be more attuned to the standards sought by European importers.

Mr. Lawzi said Jordan exports about 350 tonnes of tomatoes to the Gulf markets every day at an average price of about \$1.5 a kilogramme.

The Kingdom could send about 150 tonnes a day to Israel if agreement were reached on the price, Abdul Rahman Atm. Seneh, a senior JAMCO official, said Wednesday. Tomato production in the

Police searching for Shihan attackers

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — City police are searching for assailants who reportedly attacked the Shihan newspaper building early Thursday morning and threw a brick at a 26-year-old man who was guarding the newspaper premises, police sources said.

According to a witness, who also guards the newspaper and was present at the time, police questioned witnesses and investigated the scene, that police discovered four Molotov cocktails hidden in different areas of the two-storey building. None of the bombs went off, he added.

He told the Jordan Times Thursday evening that his colleague Mansour Ma'aytah, who was working at the time of the attack, was hit in the back of his head by a brick "apparently thrown by one of the intruders."

He said that two intruders climbed the roof of the building. One of them threw the brick, while few more standing at the entrance of the newspaper.

"After he was hit with the brick, Mansour (the guard) managed to reach his gun and fired several shots in the air to scare the perpetrators off, upon hearing the gun shots they fled the scene," said the 50-year-old man.

According to a reporter who works for the Hawadeth Assa'a (a crime tabloid), which shares the same building with Shihan, claimed that the guard actually hit one of the perpetrators when he used his gun.

Police sources contacted by the Jordan Times Thursday evening would not confirm the claim and refused to comment or release further details on the incident.

Meanwhile, a reporter who works for the Shihan newspaper said that the guard had told police that he recognised one of the attackers involved in the incident.

According to the reporter, who preferred not to be identified, the guard told police that he had recognised one of the intruders because he (the attacker) had come a day before looking for a reporter and the managing editor of the newspaper, sat and waited for them, but left because both men were busy.

Mr. Ma'aytah was not available over the weekend for comment.

Police officials were unavailable Friday evening for comment on the incident.

Man found dead in hotel room

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found dead Thursday in a hotel room in the downtown of Amman, according to a police report.

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JPA proposes new law to keep pace with current development

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Press Association (JPA) President Suleiman Qudah said in a statement Friday that the time has come for the government to introduce a modern law to organise and promote the work of Jordanian journalists.

"The present JPA law has been in existence since 1983, but many developments have occurred at the political and other levels, justifying the enactment of a new legislation capable of catering to the new developments and enabling the JPA to act more effectively," said Mr. Qudah.

Mr. Qudah was speaking before the start of a debate on a JPA draft law by the Legal Committee of the Lower House of Parliament, to start on Sunday.

He said the time has come for the government and Parliament to reconsider the existing JPA law, especially as the country is now living under a democracy requiring more flexible rules and because the old law has numerous loopholes and gaps.

Furthermore, new laws like the Press and Publication Law and the Political Parties Law which are now in force have direct impact on the JPA, noted Mr. Qudah.

Noting that the JPA has prepared a number of proposals to be included in the draft law, Mr. Qudah said these primarily concern JPA membership rights as a first

priority. A group of people have been practising journalism for a long time but since they lack the minimum eligibility requirements under the old law they cannot apply for JPA membership, Mr. Qudah explained.

He said another proposal concerns the settlement of issues related to political parties newspapers and a third concerns JPA rights to handle issues pertaining to journalists and the institutions employing them.

He said the JPA hopes that the new draft law would grant the journalists more freedom of expression under democracy and help promote their profession.



BIDDING FAREWELL: Their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein and Princess Rania Al Abdullah Thursday bid farewell to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan upon his departure for London at the beginning of a three-nation tour which will take him to Belgium, Austria and Britain, the first leg of his tour. The Crown Prince is accompanied on his two-week tour by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan. Bidding them farewell were also Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, the King's advisors and senior civil and military officials.

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sabella welcome:

Professor Yikyasu Sezi
Vice president, Nihon University, Dean, Nihon University, School of Medicine

Professor Kensuke Harada
Professor and Chairman, Department of Paediatrics

Professor Hideo Mugishima
Assistant professor and director, Department of paediatrics, paediatric hematology/oncology

and wish them a happy stay in Jordan. Mr. and Mrs. Sabella also congratulate the visiting professors on signing a cooperation agreement between Nihon University, School of Medicine, and the University of Jordan. They also thank Mr. Y. Nakagawa, Tokyo Manager of Singer Nikko Co. Ltd, Japan, for his extraordinary efforts to ensure the project's success. Thanks are also due to Mr. Husam Bazbazat from the Jordanian Embassy in Tokyo for his valuable support of the project.

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Ireland plunged into political void

DUBLIN (AFP) — Ireland was plunged into political limbo Friday as Albert Reynolds, who abruptly resigned as prime minister Thursday, clung to the leadership of his Fianna Fail Party, muddling the race to succession.

Mr. Reynolds, forced out in a bitter row with Labour partners in his two-year-old coalition, had been expected to step down as party leader shortly after handing his resignation to President Mary Robinson.

But at a meeting of Fianna Fail's parliamentary team late Thursday, he failed to do so, and although he promised to resign, will still be at the helm when the party meets Saturday to choose a new leader.

The parliamentary team meeting adjourned with the news, hours after Mr. Reynolds' resignation, that High Court President Harry

Whelehan had also quit. It was Mr. Reynolds' controversial appointment of Judge Whelehan a week earlier that sparked the conflict that brought down the government.

Observers said Mr. Reynolds, in stalling his resignation as party leader, might have been making a late bid to sway the succession, shaping up as a race between Justice Minister Maire Geoghegan-Quinn and Finance Minister Bertie Ahern.

Mr. Ahern, 43, popular former mayor of Dublin, was considered the front-runner, his Dublin power base seen by observers as a potential asset that could help Fianna Fail recapture lost electoral ground in the capital.

Ms. Geoghegan-Quinn's main disadvantage was seen as her perceived proximity to Mr. Reynolds and to the row that forced him out.

She was Judge Whelehan's boss when, as attorney general, he dragged his feet for seven months in extraditing a Catholic priest charged with, and subsequently convicted of, sexually molesting children in Northern Ireland.

It was that long delay — rumoured to have been influenced by the church — that enraged Labour, whose six ministers — led by Foreign Minister Dick Spring — walked out of the coalition and set the stage for Mr. Reynolds' resignation.

This week, as the power struggle peaked and Mr. Reynolds' position grew increasingly untenable, Ms. Geoghegan-Quinn offered to resign, but Mr. Reynolds declined.

Mr. Spring meanwhile emerged as a key player in the fall of Mr. Reynolds' government. Participation of his party was seen as an indispensable element in any

succeeding coalition.

Any successor to Mr. Reynolds as head of Fianna Fail was expected to try to patch up relations with Labour in a bid to restore the coalition government.

But Labour have already had initial talks with John Bruton, leader of the Fine Gael opposition party, about the formation of a new alliance.

Should neither of those possibilities work out, general elections would have to be held, possibly before Christmas.

Mr. Reynolds, in announcing his resignation, pointedly said he would not ask Mrs. Robinson to dissolve parliament, an option that would have made elections within three weeks a certainty.

The course he took left the president with the prerogative of asking the former partners to try to form another coalition.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin (left) invites Mr. Aliyev in Moscow on an official visit. Azeri leader Heydar Aliyev is in Moscow on an official visit. (AFP photo)

Karabakh tripartite summit agreed

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The presidents of Russia, Azerbaijan and Armenia have agreed to hold a tripartite summit to settle the deadly conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh, the Azerbaijani embassy said Friday.

An embassy spokesman gave no date or venue for the summit, to be attended by Presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia, Geidar Aliyev of Azerbaijan and Armenia's Levon Ter-Petrosian.

He said the agreement to hold the summit was reached at talks between Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Aliyev in Moscow Thursday and that preparations had begun to hold the meeting "soon." The Russian president's office would not confirm or deny the report.

In a separate report from Geneva, diplomatic sources said a high-level meeting on the disputed enclave would be held in December in the Swiss city. They said the heads of state of Armenia and Azerbaijan would attend along with U.N. chief Boutros Ghali and Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev.

More than 20,000 people have died in fighting since 1988 over the largely Armenian populated enclave in western Azerbaijan.

Dr. Ghali held talks about the dispute this month with both Mr. Aliyev and Mr. Ter-Petrosian as well as with Mr. Yeltsin.

On Thursday the Russian and Azeri presidents met to discuss the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and the future of oilfields in the Caspian Sea.

The talks focused on ways to bring a political solution to the bitter seven year conflict over Karabakh, a predominantly Armenian enclave which has announced its independence from Azerbaijan, Mr. Yeltsin's press office said.

The ITAR-TASS news agency quoted the Azeri embassy in Moscow as saying that Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Aliyev also discussed the sensitive issue of the development of oilfields in the Caspian Sea after Baku's milestone deal with a consortium of major oil companies.

The Azeri parliament Tuesday ratified a \$7.4 billion contract to develop three Caspian Sea oilfields with a

group of mainly Western oil firms. Only one Russian company, Lukoil, was part of the consortium.

The deal, signed on Sept. 20, triggered objections from the Russian Foreign Ministry, which said no single country had jurisdiction over resources in the Caspian Sea.

A special commission has been set up to coordinate activities by the five littoral states — Russia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Iran.

Mr. Yeltsin also urged Mr. Aliyev to press for a political deal with Karabakh authorities and neighbouring Armenia, Karabakh's main supporter, the Russian leader's press office said.

The office said Mr. Aliyev thanked Moscow for helping to settle a conflict which claimed thousands of lives.

Mr. Aliyev and Mr. Ter-Petrosian met for initial talks in Moscow in September.

Fighting effectively stopped in Karabakh after Moscow brokered a ceasefire which came into force in May. But there is still no firm political agreement between the conflicting parties.

Finnish MPs ratify EU membership

HELSINKI (AFP) — Finland's parliament Friday ratified the country's accession to the European Union (EU).

After a marathon debate, parliament voted 152-45 in favour of membership, easily passing the two-thirds majority needed for the ratification.

One MP abstained and one was absent. The speaker does not vote.

Finnish voters 56.9 to 43.1 per cent in the advisory referendum Sept. 18 in favour of the country's joining the EU.

The debate in parliament's plenary session lasted some 150 hours in all. It began on Nov. 2 after a lengthy debate in the Foreign Policy Committee.

According to the original

timetable, the ratification was due to take place well before Sweden's referendum on Nov. 13.

But filibustering MPs who opposed Finnish membership managed to delay the ratification, and the third reading of the bill continued Monday, the day after the Swedes also had voted for the membership.

The opponents, led by former foreign minister and former leader of the Centre Party Paavo Vaeyrynen, had hoped they could swing the parliament against the EU if Sweden voted "no."

Vesa Laukkanen, an independent elected as a Christian Party candidate and who made marathon speeches of up to six-and-a-half hours, abstained.

On Thursday evening he tendered his resignation and said he wished to resign from parliamentary functions.

A poll on whether Finland's autonomous Swedish-speaking province of Aaland should join the EU will be held Sunday. The ballot is advisory, and the final decision whether to join will be taken by the provincial diet.

The result of the islands, which lay between Finland and neighbouring Sweden, is expected to be a clear "yes" after Sweden's referendum.

Finland is due to join the EU on Jan. 1, with Austria, Sweden and Norway.

Aristide names army chief

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AP)

President Jean-Bertrand Aristide picked his own man to command Haitian troops, attempting to break a sad cycle of national history and to subordinate the soldiers to civilian rule.

Mr. Aristide picked Brig. Gen. Bernardin Poisson, an American- and French-trained career soldier fire-fighting specialist who has never commanded troops in the field.

Mr. Aristide named a police chief earlier in the week. The job remains of training a professional police force, separate from the army, and reducing the armed forces to about 1,500 soldiers.

Multinational police advisers have helped cull a 700-member interim police force from the army to be replaced by graduates from a police academy that starts classes in January.

Mr. Aristide has said he wants to instill "the respect for life" in the army and police force.

Gen. Poisson, 46, had been considered the front-runner for the post since his promotion from colonel on Oct. 18 by interim army chief Maj. Gen. Jean-Claude Duvalier.

Fire chief since 1988 until his promotion, Brig. Poisson is considered a technocrat with no political connections.

Mr. Aristide, overthrown in a military coup in September 1991 led by Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras, his previous hand-picked army chief, returned from exile on Oct. 15 with the aid of thousands of American troops.

Under the agreement engineered by the U.S. military, Gen. Duvalier became the interim army chief during the transition from military to civilian rule.

Indian army chief dies in office

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Indian army chief Bipin Chandra Joshi, who held key command positions in a 40-year military career, died here Friday suffering a massive heart attack, the army announced. He was 59 years old.

General Joshi was the first chief of the million-strong army to die while in office. The person to replace him as chief of army staff has yet to be named.

The highly-decorated general complained of shortness of breath and restlessness and was taken to a military hospital at the Delhi Cantonment, an army spokesman said. He died at 11:20 a.m. (0550 GMT).

Gen. Joshi, who had become army chief on July 1, 1993, is survived by his wife, Manjula, and two sons.

President Shankar Dayal Sharma, supreme commander of the armed forces, expressed shock and grief at the

death of Gen. Joshi and praised his contribution to the armed forces.

"The army has lost a first-class chief and the nation a selfless soldier," Gen. Sharma said in a statement issued by the presidential palace.

Gen. Joshi, who was commissioned in 1954 in the armoured corps, has been steering the army through a continuing period of transition following the breakup of the Soviet Union, which was India's premier military ally.

He was director-general of operations at a critical time when the Indian Armed Forces fought Tamil separatist guerrillas in Sri Lanka's northeast in 1987-90.

He commanded an armoured regiment in the 1971 conflict with Pakistan, which resulted in the birth of Bangladesh out of East Pakistan, and served on staff with the United Nations

Emergency Force in Gaza during 1961-62.

Gen. Joshi also served as India's military, naval and air advisor in the South Pacific region in 1973-76, and was concurrently accredited to Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Tonga.

He was a recipient of the Param Vishisht Seva Medal for distinguished service of the most exceptional order.

In a separate development, India's autonomous election commission has censured two cabinet colleagues of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao for attempting to sway voters ahead of key state polls, and said one of them should be sacked.

In two separate statements late Thursday, the commission said the ministers violated a model code of conduct it drew up to prevent politicians in office from influencing voters with sops.

N. Korea gives speedy approval for IAEA team visit

SEOUL (AFP) — North Korea Thursday gave speedy approval for a U.N. watchdog team to monitor the freeze of its suspect nuclear reactors, as both sides got down to putting last month's pledges in Geneva into action.

As the approval was channeled through North Korean diplomats to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) headquarters in Vienna, a U.S. team was in Pyongyang discussing the neutralising of 8,000 spent fuel rods containing enough weapons-grade plutonium to make four or five bombs.

And in Washington, U.S. Japanese and South Korean officials were hammering out how to put together an international consortium to replace the North's reactors with safe new ones.

Analysts here were cautious on predicting smooth sailing during the initial flurry of moves to implement the Oct. 21 Geneva framework agreement designed to halt the Stalinist North's nuclear programme in its tracks.

But they said the quick start augured well as a baffle, at least for now, to possible Republican opposition to the accord, which has been widely criticised as involving a dangerously long time-span and lacking in fail-safe mechanisms.

Under the Geneva framework it will be at least five years before North Korea allows outside inspection of two suspect sites it describes as purely military but believed by U.S. experts to be uranium reprocessing centres.

Those inspections will take place just before the last key element of the new reactors, whose cost is estimated at some \$4 billion, are put in place.

Radio Pyongyang meanwhile said U.S. officials who arrived in North Korea for talks last Saturday, have for the first time visited the secretive Yongbyon nuclear complex 90 kilometres north of Pyongyang.

According to the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), monitored in Tokyo, the five-man team began talks Monday and toured the complex for a first-hand look at the freeze Tuesday.

Pyeongyang said through KCNA that it implemented the freeze, its side of the bargain in Geneva, at the beginning of the month.

Ukraine makes punitive move against Crimea

KIEV (R) — Ukraine took a first punitive measure against its pro-Russian Crimean peninsula Thursday by rescinding a long list of its laws, but kept tougher action in reserve to keep its separatist politicians in line.

The Ukrainian parliament, by a vote of 282 to 13, rescinded more than 40 laws passed in the autonomous peninsula and considered to be separatist and in violation of the national constitution.

"Today's decision is the last constitutional step before more radical moves," said Volodymyr Stretovich, who heads parliament's Legal Commission.

"That will mean all chess pieces thrown off the board and new elections in Crimea."

Nationalist members of parliament demanded tougher action against Crimea, where many politicians have openly called for reunification with Russia. Some pointed out that Ukraine spends about \$1 billion a year in maintaining Crimea.

"Until we rescind the Crimean constitution, we will

merely keep issuing warnings," said nationalist Stepan Khmara. "We must dissolve the Crimean parliament and return Crimea to the status of a district."

Parliament's three-member extreme nationalist faction suggested dispatching troops to make Crimea toe the line.

Parliament may have acted cautiously to prevent stirring up passions ahead of President Leonid Kuchma's trip to the United States starting Saturday.

Deputies may also have wanted to avoid antagonising Moscow as Russia and Ukraine move slowly towards concluding a long overdue friendship treaty.

Crimea was run by Russia from the late 18th century until 1954, when Kremlin leader Nikita Khrushchev gave it to Soviet Ukraine as a "gift." About two-thirds of its 2.7 million residents are ethnic Russians.

The preferred holiday destination for both Tsars and Communist leaders, Crimea was given broad autonomy by post-Soviet Ukraine's new leaders in a bid to staunch pro-Russian sentiment.

Thousands march in Athens to mark 1973 uprising

ATHENS (R) — Thousands of boisterous demonstrators, chanting anti-American slogans, marched through central Athens Thursday to commemorate a 1973 student uprising which led to the fall of a military junta.

"Remember the disgrace of the Americans," chanted a large crowd of black-clad students, who held aloft a red banner with anti-American slogans in Constitution Square.

The capital's main arteries were blocked by the march and broad avenues turned into a sea of banners and flags, mostly denouncing the fallen junta and the Americans who were seen as instrumental in keeping it in power.

Many Greeks accuse the United States of steadfastly supporting, and possibly even directing, a group of colonels who seized power in 1967 and ruled for seven years.

Thousands of Greeks were imprisoned or exiled by the junta, a bitter memory for many families.

Thousands of others, including Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, jailed by the junta for eight months, and President Constantine Karamanlis, fled and lived abroad.

Police had no estimate for the number of demonstrators in the march, which stretched

for several kilometres through the heart of Athens, but radio stations put the number well into the thousands.

About 500 anarchist and some 200 neo-Nazi youths dispersed Friday after a night of rioting following a march to mark the 21st anniversary of a student uprising against the country's military regime.

The remaining anarchists left the building after police officials arranged to bus them out of the area. Overnight, youths had hurled petrol bombs and stones and destroyed three vans owned by private radio stations.

Some smashed windows in stores in the centre of Athens and set vehicles ablaze in a four-hour rampage.

Two people were slightly hurt in the unrest, as some 20 neo-Nazi youths from the organisation Chryssi Avgli (Golden Dawn) clashed with anarchists barricaded within the Polytechnic compound. The demonstrators dispersed shortly before daybreak.

It was the first time neo-Nazi youths had taken part in such unrest in Greece.

The college authorities refused to allow police to enter the grounds of the Polytechnic and security forces were limited to lobbing teargas at the demonstrators from outside.

Organised crime festers in East Europe

VIENNA — Mafia-style gangs have sprung up all over Eastern Europe since the collapse of communism, reaping fat profits from shady deals while spreading a general sense of insecurity.

Murders to order, drugs and arms trafficking, prostitution networks and large-scale car-stealing are all limit-less sources of income in the former satellites of the Soviet Union.

The criminals enjoy relative impunity because of the lack of resources of the police and judicial authorities. The underworld is becoming more and more daring.

In Bulgaria, one million people in a population of 8.5 million have been crime victims in some way or another in the past three years, according to police files.

There are 1,000 "films" running protection rackets staffed by sacked policemen and out-of-work athletes. Police blame them for three murders last year, 48 kidnappings of businessmen and hundreds of counts of intimidation ranging from planting bombs to arson.

Drug sales, including heroin, net some \$8 million a year, police calculate. Drug addicts in Communist times were numbered at several hundred in Bulgaria, now there are more than 20,000.

The gangs prey on churches, monasteries and museums too, helping themselves to 400 icons and paintings in the past three years.

The government in Sofia tried to stop the rot this month by sacking the national police chief and a dozen of

his colleagues suspected of corruption.

In Romania, several gangs of Moldovan and Ukrainian immigrants which made a specialty of armed attacks on tourist coaches have been rounded up.

The country has turned into a major transit route for drugs since war broke out in ex-Yugoslavia. Eleven tonnes of drugs were seized there last year, and in a single swoop last May 112 kilograms (246 lbs) of heroin were found.

Last month police arrested two Romanian military officers with 11 kilos (24 lbs) of uranium on them. They have also broken up a network supplying missiles to forces in Bosnia.

Chinese gangs competing in the Romanian capital Bucharest since 1991 have been settling scores of late among themselves, with four corpses found stuffed in suitcases.

In Hungary, crime is organised largely by former soldiers of the Red Army, ex-KGB agents and veterans of the Afghanistan War, police said. Ukrainian gangsters were busy in east Hungary and in the capital Budapest, running prostitution and arms and drugs smuggling.

Chechens for their part specialised in protection rackets and hiring out killers. In the south, Serbs were the most prominent in the underworld.

The thousands of tourists visiting the Czech Republic are frequent targets of burglary in the hotels in Prague, and stealing cars with Western number plates is commonplace. The police have

additionally had to tackle a rash of killings on order in the underworld as young "businessmen" running prostitutes and transfers of shady funds turned on each other.

There has been a rise in white collar felonies too. The mastermind of privatisation, Jaroslav Lizner, was arrested at the beginning of the month when still unidentified persons left an attaché case with him holding 8.3 million korunas (\$287,000).

Drug trafficking, protection rackets and robbery are daily occurrences in Poland, where travellers by road and rail are at the mercy of armed gangs.

An incident at a Warsaw railway station late last month when thugs robbed Russian tourists on board a train sharply raised tensions with Moscow, and Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin postponed a scheduled visit to the Polish capital.

Sources with the Polish Special Services said the country was now number two world producer of amphetamines after the Netherlands, and was becoming an increasingly significant link in international drug traffic.

The Australian capital for its part, once the great centre for espionage and East-West contacts during the cold war, has also attracted its share of central European mafias. Russians are already warring with Viennese rivals for control of prostitution.

Meanwhile, the Italian mafia, historically associated with the rural backlands of Sicily, has turned into a modern crime "business" through

its arrival on the international drug market (AFP).

Experts calculate its turnover per year in increasingly varied criminal activities at \$45 billion to \$55 billion, with a major portion reinvested in the international financial markets.

Its property holdings are put at \$60 billion. The figures take no account of income from legitimate businesses run by underworld figures.

Organised crime comprises the Cosa Nostra of Sicily with 5,000 members, the Camorra of Campania based on Naples with 7,000 members, the 'Ndrangheta of Calabria with 5,600 members and the Sacra Corona Unita of Apulia with 2,300 members. They are very closely linked to their respective home territories, on which they keep a firm political and military-style grip.

The Italian gangs began amassing colossal sums of money at the start of the 1970s when they moved into international drug trafficking, playing a major but not dominant role compared with the South American drug barons.

They expanded into arms deals, extortion of funds and property speculation before diversifying into legitimate economic activities.

Italian Interior Minister Roberto Maroni recently raised the alarm, warning that there was a "major risk of mafia money corrupting and conquering the legal economy."

Cosa Nostra operates all over Italy and in the United States, Canada, Germany, Switzerland and Russia.

Woman, pronounced dead, isn't

ALBANY, New York (R) — An 86-year-old woman was pronounced dead, placed in a body bag and packed in a morgue cooler for 90 minutes before someone realised she was still alive, local media reported. A morgue supervisor, retrieving the body of Mildred Clarke Wednesday for a funeral home, noticed her stomach moving and realised she was breathing.

Albany County Coroner Philip Furie told Albany, New York, television station. She had been examined by Fire Department rescue squad members and pronounced dead by the coroner, the Albany Times Union newspaper reported. Ms. Clarke was conscious and listed in serious condition Thursday at the Albany Medical Centre. "She certainly appeared as if she had expired," the coroner was quoted as saying in the newspaper. "She was cold as ice and she was stiff." Her body had been placed in the hospital morgue cooler, normally set at 40 degrees Fahrenheit, (4 degrees Celsius) the coroner told the media. Ms. Clarke is a widow who has lived at a senior citizen apartment complex for 15 years, local reports said. Albany County does not require its coroners to be licensed physicians. Mr. Furie, an insurance salesman, was elected to his post.

Whitney Houston hounded by bad press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — First came a refusal to answer to questions at news conferences and photo opportunities. Then there was a report of ill behaviour toward hotel staff. Now South African media are looking for any reason to denounce pop superstar Whitney Houston despite two packed concerts that had tens of thousands of fans — black and white — dancing and cheering. A third show in Cape Town Saturday also promises to draw a large crowd, despite ticket prices of 30 rand to 150 rand (\$8.45 to \$42.25) — more than a day's pay for many blacks. But news reports continue to focus on the negative. The state-owned South African Broadcasting Corp. reported that Ms. Houston refused to visit a dying girl who wished to meet her. Not necessarily so, said Patricia Pinnock, manager of Reach For A Dream, a company that helps fulfill wishes of sick or disadvantaged children. "She didn't exactly refuse to see her," Ms. Pinnock said. "There's still a possibility of a meeting." After the Johannesburg show, which drew more than 70,000 people who appeared delighted with the performance, newspaper and radio reports concentrated on a large number of muggings and robberies that occurred.

Ms. Houston's organisers blamed the negative publicity on South Africa's years of isolation due to apartheid. The nation, and particularly the service industry and news media, have little experience dealing with world-class acts that require stringent planning, they said. "South Africa has never experienced a superstar of Whitney's magnitude," said Roxie Meade, spokeswoman for Ms. Houston.

Italy's former communists give out Bible

ROME (R) — Karl Marx, who called religion the opium of the masses, may have been spinning in his grave Wednesday as the newspaper of Italy's former Communists gave out the Bible to help boost sales. L'Unita, which was the organ of the West's largest Marxist party before the fall of communism in 1989, gave its readers the new testament in a paperback volume with purple covers. It was sandwiched in an edition whose lead article offered readers something Marx would have been much more comfortable with — a general strike called for next month to defend workers' rights.

The Italian Communist Party (PCI) cast off Marxism and changed its name to the Democratic Party of the Left (PDS) in 1991. It remains Italy's largest leftist political force. Pope John Paul received the newspaper's editor Walter Veltroni in an audience at the Vatican Wednesday and told him he appreciated the initiative. "The values of the Gospel have a perennial significance," the Polish Pope told Mr. Veltroni.

Woman, pronounced dead, isn't

ALBANY, New York — A woman pronounced dead by a doctor at a hospital in Albany, New York, on Friday, was found to be alive and well on Saturday. The woman, who was 45 years old, had been in a coma for several days. She was found by a friend who had been visiting her in the hospital. The friend had noticed that the woman was breathing and moving her arms and legs. She called the hospital and was told that the woman was still dead. The friend then went to the hospital and found the woman alive. The hospital doctor said that the woman had been in a coma for several days and that she was now awake and talking. She was discharged from the hospital on Saturday.

Whitney Housley hounded by bad press

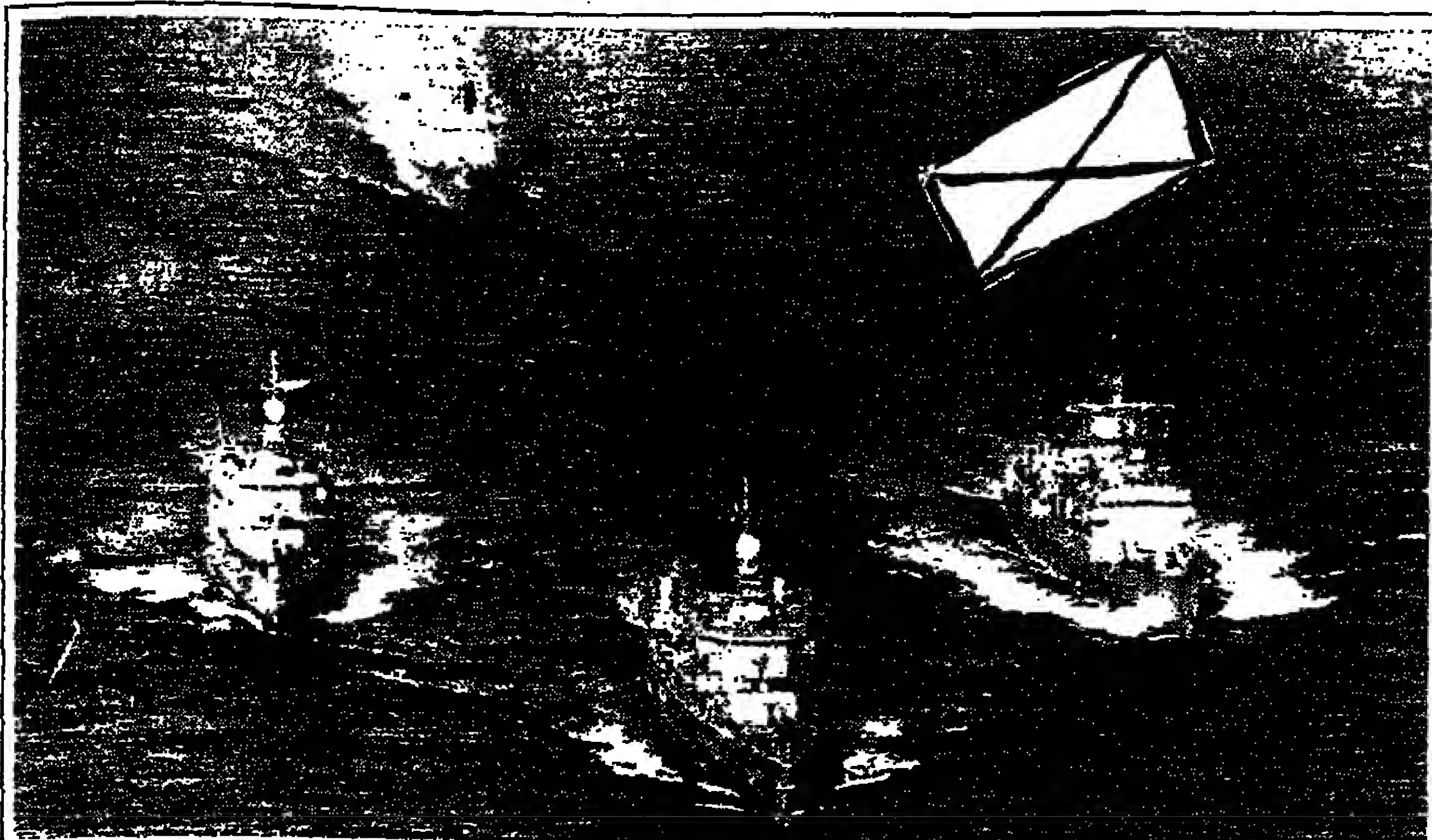
JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Whitney Housley, a 21-year-old South African, has been hounded by bad press since she was named as a suspect in the murder of a 19-year-old man. Housley was named as a suspect in the murder of a 19-year-old man who was found dead in a car in Johannesburg. Housley was a friend of the victim and was seen with him on the night of the murder. She was charged with the murder and is now in court. Housley has been in the news for several days and has been the subject of a lot of speculation. She has been accused of killing her friend and has been charged with the murder. She is now in court and is facing a charge of murder. She is accused of killing her friend and has been charged with the murder. She is now in court and is facing a charge of murder.

Fice

in Gaza — A peace agreement between Israel and the PLO was signed in Gaza on Friday. The agreement was signed by Yasser Arafat, the leader of the PLO, and Itzhak Mordechai, the Israeli prime minister. The agreement was a landmark event in the peace process between Israel and the PLO. It was the first time that the two sides had signed a peace agreement. The agreement was signed in Gaza and was a landmark event in the peace process between Israel and the PLO. It was the first time that the two sides had signed a peace agreement.

Italy's former communists out Bible

ROME, Italy — The Italian Communist Party (PCI) has been forced to give up its long-standing tradition of publishing a Bible for its members. The Bible was a book that contained the party's constitution and other important documents. It was a symbol of the party's unity and was passed on from one generation to the next. However, the party has now decided to give up the Bible. The decision was made by the party's leadership and was a landmark event in the party's history. The Bible was a symbol of the party's unity and was passed on from one generation to the next. However, the party has now decided to give up the Bible.



AEGEAN EXERCISES: Three Greek frigates Linos (centre) Adrias (left) and Macedonia (right) are followed by USS destroyer Peterson during an air and sea exercise in the south Aegean and Creta Sea code named Niritis 94. The exercise, that also includes American, English, French, Spanish and Italian ships, coincides with the Turkish Seawolf 94 exercise in the north Aegean Sea. Turkey has threatened Greece with war if it implements an international law, that went into effect on Nov. 16, allowing it to extend its territorial waters from 6 to 12 miles (AFP photo)

Police surround cathedral after E. Timor protests

DILI, East Timor (AFP) — Scores of riot police backed by troops laid siege to the Roman Catholic cathedral here Friday after more than a hundred young East Timorese staged another violent protest to clamour for an end to Indonesian rule. The three-hour standoff — the fourth disturbance to rock the enclave in the past week — ended only after the Roman Catholic Bishop of Dili, Carlos Ximenes Belo, negotiated an end to the siege. The demonstrators were later bussed home, an independent source and a military spokesman said. The protest began when between 400 and 500 people gathered outside the church to attend a mass, in full view of the world's media. Before the mass could start, East Timorese youths unfurled banners and placards demanding the end to Indonesia's 18 year long occupation of the territory and calling for the release of the jailed guerrilla leader Xanana Gusmao, an independence activist. A volley of stones were thrown over the church yard's wall by figures who appeared to be Indonesian police in civilian clothes, triggering an exchange with the protesters. Police fired several canisters of tear gas before reinforcements were called in and the church yard sealed off. Foreign reporters who had taken the rare chance to visit Dili after covering the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum summit were chased down the street by club-wielding riot police and took refuge in an Indonesian family's home. There were no arrests of

foreign journalists, but an AFP reporter was threatened by a policeman brandishing a rattan and an AFP photographer suffered a slight shoulder wound after being hit by a rock. Several people were injured in the demonstration, including a suspected informer for Indonesian security. Riot police sealed off the street with lines of shields at nightfall and truckloads of troops were deployed along side streets while Bishop Belo negotiated an end to the standoff, said an AFP reporter. Buses and trucks were brought into the church compound and the remaining East Timorese, numbering about 140, were taken home, an independent source said. Major Ladean Simbolon, the East Timor military spokesman, said: "It is all over, the cathedral is empty. No one has been arrested. No one has been wounded." The latest violence in East Timor, a former Portuguese colony seized by Indonesia in 1975 and annexed a year later in defiance of the United Nations, erupted last Saturday. The week's unrest has led to at least one death and 22 arrests. The disturbances, coupled with the ongoing occupation of the U.S. embassy compound by 29 Timorese demonstrators, severely embarrassed President Suharto as he hosted a meeting that brought together the leaders of APEC's 18 members states. On Wednesday, U.S. President Bill Clinton met with Mr. Suharto and appealed for Indonesia to relax its control over the territory, but Mr. Suharto, a former general, offered no concessions.

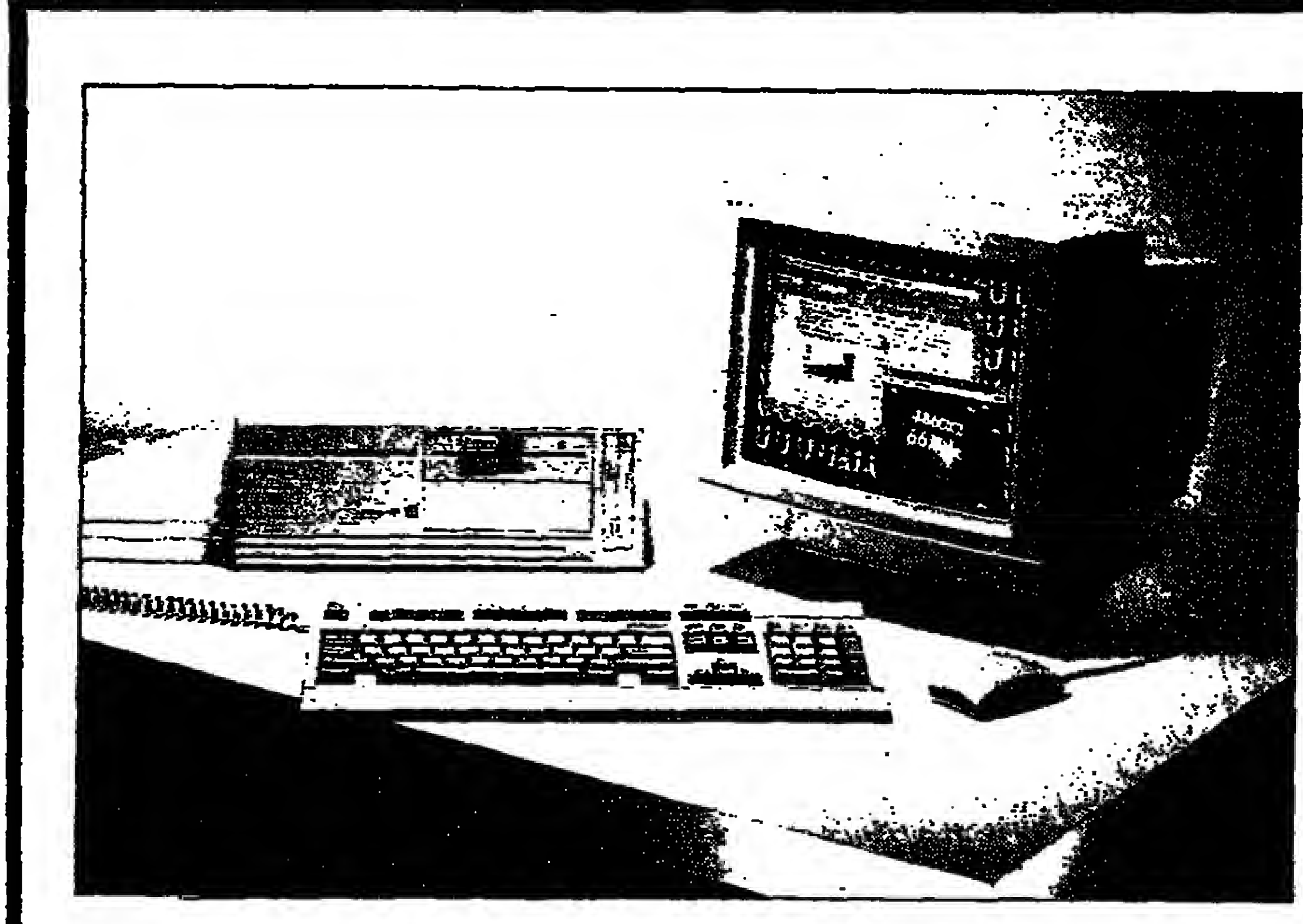
Tamil rebels revoke truce after death of top cadre

COLOMBO (AFP) — The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) Friday revoked their seven-day unilateral ceasefire a day after the army killed a top cadre in the island's north-east, Tamil sources said. The LTTE has informed its cadres that the truce declared last Saturday to mark the inauguration of Chandrika Kumaratunga as Sri Lanka's new president had been revoked Friday, the sources said. A military source confirmed the Tigers' action, saying: "We have LTTE intercepts announcing that the ceasefire is off. Our men are ready for any surprise attacks by them." "Troops anyway have been on alert since they declared this so-called ceasefire," the military source added. Government troops Thursday seized an automatic weapon, two hand grenades and a cyanide capsule from the dead LTTE rebel, identified as Malli and holding the rank of "lieutenant-colonel," military sources said. Hardcore Tiger guerrillas carry cyanide capsules, which they consume to avoid being captured alive by security forces. The LTTE militant was believed to be on a reconnaissance mission when he was gunned down, the sources said. The killing of the Tiger militant was the latest military response to the unilateral ceasefire. The military has not reciprocated the LTTE truce and has claimed to have killed five LTTE rebels in the

east of the country over the past four days. The rebels have also accused the navy of not observing the truce by shelling coastal areas in the rebel-controlled north and killing four Tamil fishermen. The LTTE's overseas propaganda unit had already begun accusing the government of not being interested in the peace process by not responding positively to the rebel truce, Tamil sources said. The LTTE's overseas propaganda unit had already begun accusing the government of not being interested in the peace process by not responding positively to the rebel truce, Tamil sources said.

Nepalese Communists edge closer to power

KATHMANDU (AFP) — The Communist opposition edged closer to winning Nepal's general election Friday as ballot counting continued. The Nepal Communist Party-United Marxist and Leninist (NCP-UML) had 73 of the 149 seats counted, at the latest toll given. It already exceeds the number obtained in the country's first elections in 1991 with 55 still to be decided. The president of the ruling Nepali Congress (NC), which had 54 seats, conceded Friday that his party would not be able to govern alone. But Krishna Prasad Bhattarai added: "Nevertheless, without the Nepali Congress, no government can be formed and that is also obvious." And with polling having to be rescheduled in at least 30 constituencies around the country because of irregularities, no definitive makeup of the next government will be decided until next week. "But the NCP-UML led the NC in 10 constituencies were counting was going ahead. And it can count on a smaller Communist faction which had four seats assured." Despite the spectacular Communist gains, many analysts still believe they will not get the 103 seats required to form a government. The Communists had 69 seats in the parliament dissolved in May. The NC had 110 seats. The NCP-UML will probably have to form a coalition with the Congress or the right-wing Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP), which had 4 seats in the partial toll, analysts said. NCP-UML Central Committee member, Pradip Nepali, was confident of victory. He acknowledged that a coalition was possible if his



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Serb planes bomb Bihac — U.N.

SARAJEVO (AFP) — Two Serb planes, operating out of Serb-held Croatia, Friday bombed the U.N.-declared safe area of Bihac town, causing a number of casualties, the U.N. Protection Force and Sarajevo radio reported. UNPROFOR in Zagreb confirmed the air raid on Bihac was carried out by two planes flying a very low level in a westerly direction which fired at least one rocket or missile. In Sarajevo meanwhile, UNPROFOR reported that a seven-year-old boy was killed and his mother seriously wounded by Bosnian Serb sniper fire outside the Holiday Inn Hotel. Another passerby was also wounded in the shooting. UNPROFOR said the planes' altitude of 60 metres explained why NATO radar failed to pick up the aircraft. In a similar attack early this month, a Serb fighter-bomber fired missiles at an ammunition factory in Bihac town. Sarajevo Radio, for its part, said the planes dropped fragmentation bombs near the centre of town, killing and wounding inhabitants. As the attack was taking place, at around 11 a.m. (1000 GMT), UNPROFOR civil spokesman Thant Myint-U reaffirmed in Sarajevo that there would be "a military response (to) any sustained attack on the (Bihac) safe area and direct attacks on U.N. personnel." He also voiced "concern, anxiety and frustration" at the growing number of violations by both Bosnian government and Serb forces of U.N.-mediated agreements in Sarajevo, following a series of tit-for-tat shelling. U.N. officials were in urgent meetings "to prevent the sort of spiralling violence in Sarajevo which would kill any chance of future peace," he said. He also condemned the invasion, launched from the Serb-held Krajina region of Croatia, saying that even if the U.N. was unable to prove Croatian Serb involvement "their support for this invasion is clearly unacceptable." The U.N. earlier blamed Krajina Serbs for shelling the enclave and Muslim rebels who fought their way into the enclave Wednesday, striking at it from the north and from west. There was heavy fighting Thursday around the government-held town of Velika Kladusa in the north of the pocket. The town, while surrounded, had not fallen to the invading Croatian Serb and Muslim rebel forces, UNPROFOR spokesman Lt.-Col. Tim Spicer said here. Some 1,200 Bangladeshi peace-keepers are currently deployed in the enclave, including 346 in Sika Kladusa, a town now surrounded by Abdic forces in the north, and 161 in the Bihac town safe area, to the south. Fighting also continued to the immediate east of Bihac town safe area, with government forces locked in battle with Bosnian Serb forces who were attempting to recapture the high ground overlooking the city. U.N. civil and military representatives meanwhile aimed to meet Friday with rebel Muslim leader Fikret Abdic, who has thrown in his lot with the Krajina Serbs after facing defeat last summer at the hands of the 5th Corps government forces in the pocket. The meeting follows warnings by the U.N. Security Council in New York against cross border attacks from Serb-held Croatia and threats of air strikes by NATO if the lives of U.N. peacekeepers or that of civilians in the U.N.-

declared safe area of Bihac town were put at risk. Meanwhile, the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Friday suspended the humanitarian airlift into Sarajevo after a Canadian plane was fired at Thursday. In Paris Friday Britain, France and Russia called for unity of the five-nation contact group on Bosnia and tried to minimise the tension caused by a U.S. decision to stop enforcing an arms embargo against Bosnia. French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe met for an hour with his counterparts from Britain and Russia Douglas Hurd and Andrei Kozyrev. Mr. Hurd repeated calls for an early meeting of the group. Germany, which is also a contact group member, has proposed the meeting be held on Dec. 2. The U.S. is the fifth member of the group. The U.N. Protection Force expressed dissatisfaction over the uncooperativeness of the Bosnian Serbs after their commander turned down UNPROFOR requests to meet him, a U.N. commander said here Friday. French General Herve Gobillard, commander of UNPROFOR in Sarajevo and the acting U.N. commander of Bosnia in the absence of General Michael Rose, in his Friday communique to the press said UNPROFOR "strongly deprecates the uncooperative attitude" of the Bosnian Serbs. The communique came after "repeated requests" by Gen. Gobillard to meet with the commander of Bosnian Serbs, General Ratko Mladic, were turned down. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the deteriorating military situation in Sarajevo, said the statement. On Thursday Gen. Gobillard accused both sides of firing at each other in the Sarajevo area. The Bosnian presidency building was hit Thursday. Gen. Gobillard "urgently" requested another meeting Friday with Gen. Mladic, the statement said. "If this meet is also refused it will be taken as a sign that the Bosnian Serb Army is no longer interested in further cooperation with UNPROFOR," Gen. Gobillard said. Meanwhile the self-proclaimed Krajina Serb government in southwestern Croatia has rejected an accord with Croatia on economic questions, the Croatian Serb spokesman for foreign affairs Milan Babic said Friday. Mr. Babic told the secessionist Serb News Agency, Iskra, monitored in Belgrade, that his government late Thursday rejected the accord although its Prime Minister Borislav Mikelic had proposed accepting it under certain conditions. Croatia had accepted draft accord, brokered by the international conference on former Yugoslavia, Wednesday. Representatives of the Krajina Serbs, who control around a quarter of Croatian territory, and the Croatian authorities met at Zagreb Airport Tuesday for a third session of talks since contacts resumed last month. Geneva conference co-chairman Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg and their respective deputies, Gerd Ahrens and Kai Eide, attended the meeting, along with the U.S. and Russian ambassadors to Zagreb, Peter Galbraith and Leonid Kerestjanski. Mr. Galbraith said Wednesday the accord covered the restoration of water and power supplies, the repair of an oil pipeline and the reopening of roads.

Angola rebels refuse to sign peace pact

NEGAGE, Angola (AFP) — A top UNITA leader here threatened bush warfare in reprisal for the Angolan army's seizure of rebel-held towns and alleged truce violations, and a UNITA spokesman said Friday that the rebels will not sign a peace pact. "Our forces are ready to resume the war," UNITA Vice-President General Antonio Dembo told AFP late Thursday in the only remaining strategic stronghold of the rebels, the air base at Negage in the north of Angola. UNITA's representative in West Africa Friday said in Abidjan that the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UN-

ITA) will not sign a peace pact with the Angolan government as scheduled Sunday. "We cannot go to Lusaka, because government forces are preventing us from leaving by shelling us," John Marques Kakumba said. Gen. Dembo said UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi, who is due to sign, was in the region of Huambo, his former base captured by regular troops this month. Despite a pullout by UNITA's delegation to negotiations in Lusaka, a spokesman in Luanda said President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos still planned to sign the peace pact in the Zambian capital Lusaka. The arduous U.N.-mediated bid to end 19 years of civil war was stalled again when UNITA quit the Lusaka talks Thursday as both sides accused the other of violating Tuesday's truce. Gen. Dembo said that the rebels could return to the bush "to win back the countryside in guerrilla operations because we are not going to let ourselves be destroyed." He was speaking after the army captured the last three provincial capital and major towns seized by UNITA after the rebels lost U.N.-mediated elections in September 1992. Following the initialling of the Lusaka protocol last Oct. 31, government troops pursued onslaughts against Huambo, Angola's second

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Looming troubles in Palestine

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin has upped the ante for the PLO when he declared during his tour of the U.S. that the PLO-Israeli talks on holding Palestinian elections will have to be put on hold until the Palestinian National Council amends the part of its covenant that calls for the destruction of Israel. Israel had in fact raised the issue before but it knew and accepted that the time was not ripe yet to affect the necessary change. The Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, has been waiting for realising significant gains on the road to self-rule before raising the Israeli request before his Palestinian constituency. Arafat must have calculated that on the face of things and in view of slow pace of Israeli-PLO negotiations, he would not be able to muster sufficient support within his organisation to meet Israeli calls for deleting all objectionable references in the charter. The crucial question that arises now is why Rabin has chosen to reactivate this subject at a time when Arafat is beleaguered more than ever before, whether by the mounting challenges from Hamas and Islamic Jihad as well as by the slow pace of international funding for his embryonic Palestinian National Authority (PNA). Recent "slips of the tongue" by several Palestinian officials, including the PLO chairman himself, which referred to Israel as the "enemy," coming on top of the failure of the PLO to deliver the Palestinian people, must have played an important role in Rabin's decision to raise the stakes for the Palestinian leadership. With the deterioration of the situation in the Gaza Strip yesterday and the lack of positive change in the West Bank, Arafat is ill put to silence the opposition within the Palestinian ranks or amend the PLO charter.

Thus the fault for the deterioration in the Israeli-PLO relations goes both ways. On the one hand Israel has been too slow in its peace talks with the Palestinians depriving them of early peace dividends. On the other hand, the international community which showed considerable generosity on paper to the Palestinians has been procrastinating over the transfer of funds to their empty coffers. This vicious circle may end up causing uncontrolled explosions in the Palestinian territories as Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak cautioned Thursday. It seems that unless a higher level of statesmanship surfaces in the PLO-Israeli negotiations, there could be major setbacks for the entire peace process.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

BY PAYING a visit to Qatar on Saturday, Prime Minister 'Abdul Salam Majali opens a new chapter in the relations between Jordan and the Arab Gulf states, said a columnist in Al Ra'i daily. Jordanian-Gulf relations, although strong over the past decades, are in need of stimulation and further bolstering in all domains, and they should be founded on new concepts which aim at safeguarding all parties' interests, said Sultan Al Hattab. The writer said Qatar's relations have remained warm with Jordan despite the strains caused by the Gulf crisis because Doha and Amman have always been intent on maintaining brotherly ties and sought mutual respect throughout the past years. Jordan is keen on closing Arab ranks and bolstering inter-Arab relations, bearing in mind the fact that there is a vital need for the Arabs to form their own economic bloc so as to cater to the rapid economic developments around the world and enhance the Arab Nations' economies, said the writer. After ensuring the peace treaty with Israel, which is bound to pave the way for security and stability in the region said the writer, Jordan is now turning its attention towards re-establishing the strongest possible relations with the Arab sister states.

ISSA SHUEIBI, a columnist in Al Dustour, criticised the government's reduction of the customs duty on cars and other commodities as unsatisfactory to the consumers and the merchants alike. The writer said that the reduction in the duty on cars was only marginal, not in favour of the limited income groups. It is the rich and the groups with high income that can still afford to buy the cars and also benefit from the marginal reduction in customs duty, said the writer. On the other hand, the reduction in customs duty has not affected the prices of commodities which are in the merchants' stores, which means all commodities included in the list of items whose customs duty has been reduced would not be affected for a long time and the consumers will continue to buy them according to previous tariffs. He said that the government is doing nothing to stem the greed of merchants who tend to benefit through manipulation whenever the prices are affected downwards or upwards. Citing the example of coffee, the writer said that when the world prices shot up, the local merchants raised their prices though they had sufficient amounts of coffee in store, and when the world prices went down the local merchants continued to sell at the former high prices.

Jordanian Perspective

Arafat's failure to deliver fuelling conflict in self-rule areas

M. KAHIL



SIX MONTHS after entering the occupied Gaza Strip and setting up the autonomous government, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is today fighting hard to keep the self-rule on track while not relinquishing his autocratic style of leadership. As far as the Palestinian on the street is concerned, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has failed to deliver, whether in terms of improved living conditions or in asserting Palestinian independence. Anti-peace violence is growing and Mr. Arafat seems to be at a loss how to tread between Israeli pressure to crack down on the hardline groups and his own need to maintain a minimum level of cordiality with the hardliners.

By and large, there is truth in Mr. Arafat's assertions that the delay in receiving international aid could be partly blamed for the rise in Palestinian frustration, thus his demand that funds be directly pumped into the occupied territories is also justified. But then, the problem is quite simple and clear: The style of governance of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has not changed a bit to instil confidence in the World Bank, the coordinator of international aid for the Palestinians, that the funds would be used for the purpose they are intended for in the first place. Indeed, the World Bank could have done better, but the main blame lies on the PNA itself.

Two or three months should have been enough for the self-rule authority to realise that there was something seriously wrong in the way things were going and understand and appreciate that unless it changes its ways and accommodate the international community's need for transparency and accountability the main component of autonomy — financial support — would not be forthcoming.

Even today, months after months of repeated international calls for accountability and transparency, the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR) has not done much to meet the conditions of the World Bank. And, by the look of things, every day that passes brings in international apathy to the plight of the Palestinians, an apathy that would be translated into refusal to honour the pledges of aid that donor countries made on Oct. 1, 1993, in Washington.

Equally serious is the spiral of violence in the occupied territories, prompting many analysts to conclude that a Palestinian civil war could be in the making if the situation is not addressed, a fact that Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres acknowledged recently.

What Mr. Arafat has achieved so far belittles the sacrifices of those Palestinians who gave their lives for something much better than what the PNA president could offer to his constituents today and the anguish of the Palestinian prisoners who underwent physical and psychological torture in Israeli hands to help advance the cause of independence and a dignified life.

One could hear the Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories wondering what the alternatives they have to ensure that the peace process is not undermined and the declaration of principles is implemented. Needless to say some of them have been alienated from the self-rule authority, or more precisely, Mr. Arafat.

Indeed, there are no magic solutions to the problem. But the PLO chairman could help the situation by changing his way of ruling his people. By all accounts, he has tightened his autocratic way of decision-making. The most damaging part of the equation is the fact that senior PNA officials, many of them pragmatic and down to earth, discuss and

reach agreements with governments and other external parties and organisations on how to organise things, only to face rejection by the PNA chairman. It is the credibility of those PNA officials that is being eroded as a result. Quite simply, there is no assurance that when a PNA official sits down and negotiates things with anyone that the agreements that are reached will be respected and implemented by his or her own side. As a result, the entire process of developing the economy and politics of the Palestinians is a farce, to say the least.

On the Jordanian-Israeli front, the controversy over Jerusalem appears to have been put to rest after the Kingdom's pledge that it was ready to handover the Islamic holy shrines there to the Palestinians after they secure their territorial and political rights in the occupied territories. But it is naive to think that it was only the issue of Jerusalem that was behind Mr. Arafat's vehement criticism of the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty. For one thing, it was clear that the PNA leader was upset that the treaty stole the limelight of the peace process away from the Palestinian scene. Another fear of Mr. Arafat was apparently that the focus of international donors and investors would shift to Jordan from the Palestinian territories.

Well, we cannot hold Mr. Arafat's hand and continue to pacify and comfort him for ever. Jordan had to defend and ensure its own national interests and the peace treaty with Israel is entirely a bilateral issue between the Kingdom and its neighbour. If Mr. Arafat or anyone else gets upset over it, all we can say is, tough luck.

If anything, some of the provisions in the peace treaty

are so carefully drafted that there is not the slightest suggestion, practically or otherwise, that the Kingdom was encroaching upon Palestinian rights or sought to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinian rights. Instances are many: Jordan refused to discuss with Israel the Kingdom's borders with Israel, and it excluded the Palestinian share of water in its agreement of water with the Jewish state (wonder why Jordan got only 215 million cubic metres of water while everyone was talking about 377 million cubic metres?). And Jordan also refused to consider the King Hussein Bridge as a point of access between the Kingdom and Israel since the western side of it is Palestinian territory and therefore cannot serve as a crossing between two other sovereign countries without the consent of the Palestinians.

Of course, that does not negate the traditional relationship between the peoples from the two banks of the River Jordan, and hence our concern over the course of the autonomy agreement. We stand to suffer as much as the Palestinians do in the event of things turning worse in the occupied territories.

It is not too late for Mr. Arafat to correct the situation. The starting point, indeed, is shedding his autocratic way of ruling and delegation of authority and responsibility to people who know and can deliver. Then comes closer coordination with the Arab World, starting with Jordan.

But coordination should not remain limited to agreements and handshakes. There should be a clear appreciation of the links that bind the two peoples and of Jordanian sincerity when it says it wants Mr. Arafat to achieve success in his endeavours to reach the goal of independence.

THE WEEK IN PRINT

Israeli aggressive measures responsible for rise of violence in occupied territories

Reviewed By Elias Nasrallah

THE LOCAL Arabic dailies last week gave focused on the developments in the occupied Palestinian lands, the peace process, Iraq and domestic issues.

ARAFAT HIJAZI, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily, drew attention to the danger inherent in Israel's partition of the Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron, saying that the move would undermine the whole peace process between the Israelis and the Palestinians. The writer said that the partition constitutes and aggression on the Arabs and Muslims everywhere because the mosque is a sacred shrine for them in general and the Palestinians in particular.

Not sufficing itself with planting Jewish communities inside the Arab city of Hebron, the Israeli government has now taken a very dangerous step in the occupied city by installing a Jewish synagogue in the Muslim shrine, said the writer.

Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said that talking about resistance activities inside the occupied lands as terrorist actions would do Israel any good, nor would the severe measures which the Israelis are imposing on the Arab population following the resistance operations. He said that Israel was exploiting the peace process through perpetuating the occupation of Arab territories, which

has lasted for 27 years so far and is committing practices that are not conducive to peace and stability. Only by ending the occupation and the presence of Jewish settlements can resistance operations end, and peace be established, he added.

Taher Al Adwan, said that the Jihad Al Islami's latest resistance operation in Gaza was a natural reaction to the killing by Israeli agents of one of the Jihad Al Islami's prominent figures, Hani Abed. The writer in Al Dustour said that Israel had earlier announced that it was plotting to get rid of the Islamists leaders and it was natural for the Islamist groups to conclude that it was Israeli agents who murdered Mr. Abed. Under the Oslo agreement, said the writer, Israel has pledged to end Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip but as the settlers stayed there, the resistance groups have the right to pursue their activities. Should the Israelis persist in their present policies concerning the treatment of the Palestinians and the maintaining of Jewish settlements, the chances of peace and security will remain grim.

For every action there is a more violent reaction, said Saleh Al Qalab, a writer in Al Dustour with reference to the rising level of violence in the occupied territories. The writer said that the Israelis have in

the past tried to stem resistance by murdering Arab leaders but the attempts were all in vain and the resistance increased in intensity. Through violence, Israel can never achieve peace and security for the Jewish communities and with the presence of Jewish settlements, acts of resistance are bound to continue, said Mr. Qalab.

Tareq Masraweh, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily, said that the peace process was bound to be delayed and obstructed largely because the United States is dragging its feet over the question of achieving peace between Syria and Israel. The writer said that by delaying U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to the region to play a shuttle diplomacy between Damascus and Tel Aviv, Washington is delaying the conclusion of a peace treaty between the two sides.

While Israel and the United States are blaming the Syrians for the delay, everyone realises that it is Israel that is obstructing progress, he said.

According to Fahd Al Fanek, a columnist in Al Ra'i, the Republicans' domination of the U.S. Congress would delay the peace process. The U.S. administration is more likely to try to pursue the peace process in the Middle East but the Republican-dominated Congress is likely to block this move so as to deprive the Democrats

of any achievements, said the writer. On the whole, U.S. President Bill Clinton will from now on be in a relatively weak position vis-a-vis the U.S. Congress.

Samih Al Maaitah, a columnist in Al Dustour, addressed the challenges facing the Jordanian government in the wake of the signing the peace treaty with Israel.

Noting that the negotiations with the Israeli side were continuing over the implementation of the treaty's provisions, the writer said that Israel is most likely to exercise pressures on Jordan in a way that aims at securing the maximum advantages for the Jewish state. The writer said that the rapid normalisation of relations between the two sides is not in favour of Jordan because at this stage the Zionists try to exploit every move as quickly as possible and try to impose their hegemony on various aspects and sectors in Jordan.

He said that the Jordanians ought to show more interest in maintaining the strongest possible ties with the Palestinians and to defend the Palestinian endeavours to end the occupation as a priority preceding normalisation.

Mohammad Kawash, a columnist in Al Dustour, tackled the situation in the wake of Iraq's recognition of Kuwait saying that the United States was adamant in its position and will continue to place obstacles in the way of terminating the U.N. sanctions on the Iraqi people despite Baghdad's total compliance with the U.N. resolutions. The writer

said that Washington has its own interests to protect and it believes that the sanctions would enable it to achieve that goal and ensure continued oil flow from the Gulf region. But, the writer said, Baghdad has now won France and Russia to its side and opened a breach in the international coalition, which would eventually help end the embargo.

Tareq Masraweh, paid tribute to Russia for seeking to bring peace between Iraq and Kuwait and at the same time ensure an end to the embargo on the Iraqi people. The writer said that though Kuwait and other Gulf countries could still be adamant in their position, one can count on Moscow to play its cards well and convince the United States and the West of the need to ease the sanctions.

Mr. Masraweh said that with the change of heart in Moscow and Paris about the sanctions, Washington's hold on matters related to Iraq has obviously weakened, especially as the end of the sanctions would bring about many advantages to Russia.

By refusing to end the embargo on the Iraqi people, despite Baghdad's open recognition of Kuwait, the United States has exposed its true face to the world, showing its hostility towards the Arabs in general and determination to cause the demise of the Iraqi population, said Ibrahim Al Absi, a columnist in Al Ra'i. The writer said that perhaps it is in Washington's interest to maintain the sanctions but definitely it is not in the interest of the Kuwaitis and the other Gulf people to see the sanctions causing the death of innocent Iraqi people. The United States is trying to find new pretext for perpetuating the sanc-

tions on Iraq but the Arab states ought to counter this move and respond to the call of reason and save their kinsmen from extermination.

Another columnist echoed the call on the Arab states to end their embargo on Iraq now that Baghdad is ready for reconciliation after recognising Kuwait. Ahmad Dabbas, a writer in Sawt Al Shaab daily, said that Baghdad's compliance with the U.N. resolutions has prompted Russia and France to move towards ending the sanctions. Perhaps Russia has its own reasons and is seeking to safeguard its own interests, but its moves are also benefiting to the starving Iraqi people, said the writer. He said that the Arab states should take the lead in ending the embargo, which has caused so much sufferings to their brothers and sisters.

Mohammad Subeichi criticised the government's decision for reducing customs duty tariffs on non-essential goods. The writer in Al Dustour said that the government has reduced tariffs on goods consumed by the rich and not the poor who had wished that the prices of basic commodities would drop. The writer said that the majority of the Jordanian people would not go hungry if the prices of cosmetics and artificial flowers and chestnut, remained high.

Another columnist echoed the same view, saying that the people had wished the government would bring down the prices of flour, sugar, medicine and fuel. Samir Hiyari said that while the prices of a basic commodities are continuing to rise, the government chose to reduce the prices of non-essential goods like nuts, snuffs, cosmetics and other non-necessary goods.

free food to civil servants, soldiers, widows and others. Many people had access to food and fuel coupons and bakeries were heavily subsidised.

These benefits have disappeared, although the government has tried to compensate by giving its employees cash bonuses.

While penny threats are most people, there are enough newly rich guerrilla commanders to sustain a market for expensive new cars and other vehicles stolen in Pakistan and sold openly in Kabul.

"There is a tiny stratum of people making an enormous amount of money out of this war and a large stratum of people that has been impoverished," Mr. Masty said.

Peace and anticipation of Israeli investment builds confidence at AFM

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty has induced a much-needed confidence to investors in the Amman Financial Market (AFM), leading to higher turnover and, more importantly, a rise in stock prices in anticipation of Israeli capital entering the market, brokers said Friday.

The weekly report of the AFM said turnover rose to JD 15.1 million last week, up 159 per cent from the previous week's JD 6.1 million.

The general share price index based on 60 major companies closed at 148.7 points, up 3.1 points or 2.2 per cent from the week's opening of 145.6 points, the report said. The index had gone up to 150.4 points in mid-week before slipping, but the decline was natural because of "adjusting deals" by speculators who sought short-term profit, brokers said.

The industrial sector accounted for JD 8.2 million, or 51.9 per cent, of last week's turnover, followed by commercial banks with JD 4.3 million, or 27.1 per cent, the services sector with JD 3.1 million, or 19.6 per cent, and insurance stock with JD

200,000, or 1.2 per cent. The separate commercial bank shares sector index rose by 3.7 points, or 2.3 per cent, the industrial index by 2.9 points or 2.2 per cent, the services sector index by 1.8 points or 1.3 per cent and the insurance stock index by 0.4 points or 0.4 per cent.

The AFM report said 5.2 million shares changed hands during the week under 6,400 contracts.

Shares of 82 companies were traded during the week, with 63 of them gaining, 11 losing and eight remaining stable.

Brokers attributed upward swing in the market after several months of see-sawing to a general boost in investor confidence after the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty was signed and ratified.

"For the first two weeks after the signing of the treaty, investors maintained a very cautious approach," said a broker. "When the treaty was finally formalised (by the exchange of the documents of ratification on Nov. 10) they moved," added the broker, speaking on condition of anonymity under standing market guidelines.

A firm indicator how the stock market could benefit

immediately from the peace treaty came when AFM Director-General Omayya Touqan told a gathering of businessmen late last week that Israeli investors could enter the market under the present regulations governing foreign capital in the stock market.

"Everybody knows that speculation in the stock market is a favourite means of investments for Israelis as is evidenced in the Tel Aviv bourse," noted the broker.

"Given the average daily volume of \$100 million in Tel Aviv, it is only natural that a small slice of it diverted to Jordan will make a big difference to the AFM." Furthermore, noted the broker, Israel has introduced taxation on capital gains, including profits made in the stock market. The Jordanian government is studying a similar measure but it is not expected to take effect soon.

However, foreign investors are expected to be exempt from the proposed measure. Israel also taxes income gained outside, but at a lower rate of tax than on income derived within the country. As such, the Jordanian stock market is ideal for many Israeli speculators.

Dr. Touqan was among the Jordanian officials on Thurs-

day. It was an indication that the AFM is expecting Israeli investors to take an interest in Jordanian stocks and the authorities were paving the way for them by discussing the legal aspects of Israeli capital in the stock market.

Also at play last week at the AFM was a trend among investors to acquire shares and adopt positions ahead of figures to be released by many companies in December.

Influencing investors were also signs that Jordan had made a good presentation of its case at the Oct. 30-Nov. 1 economic summit in Casablanca, Morocco, and that the Kingdom could expect serious investor interest, the brokers said.

The slow but steady foreign response to Jordan's appeal for debt relief is also influencing investors who take the move as the strong indication yet of a conviction that the Kingdom's economy was turning around fast and could register a better than expected growth this year.

Also helping the market were indications that relations between Jordan and the Palestine National Authority (PNA) in Gaza and Jericho could be on the way to improvement after several months of uncertainty.

Merrill Lynch not convinced dollar's downward trend is over

The following report, covering the period from Thursday Nov. 10, 1994 until Wednesday Nov. 16, 1994, was provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at Merrill Lynch-Dubai.

Overview

Fundamental view: The Fed's 75 basis point rate hike on Nov. 15 has boosted the dollar somewhat, but we are not convinced that the dollar's downtrend is over. U.S. external borrowing requirements remain huge, at about \$280 billion per year. With the U.S. economy still strong and the yield currently still steep — indicating that monetary policy is still not viewed as restrictive — foreign investors are still likely to be uncomfortable about investing in U.S. financial markets. Our U.S. economists expect more Fed tightening ahead, and believe the Fed funds rate will be pushed up to 6.25% higher by the second quarter of next year. Futures markets are more pessimistic, and are pricing in 3-month money rates of 7.4% by next September.

Eventually, Fed tightening should curb U.S. capital outflows and a dollar rally may develop, but we do not think the dollar is out of the woods yet. We continue to expect level like DM/USD 1.45 and JPY/USD 92 over the next 6-to-12 months.

Technical view: The week ending Nov. 11 was still another reasonably good week for the U.S. dollar, and for the second week in a row, the greenback managed to post gains against five of the six major currencies. Once again, only the Australian dollar managed to net gain versus its U.S. counterpart. In the end, the U.S. dollar index rallied 0.7% for its third straight weekly advance (and its sixth gain in eight weeks). Last week's rally was the index's best performance since late August. Momentum remains at or near oversold readings and is attempting to improve; in fact, the July-August momentum lows continue to be the lows for the post-February dollar decline.

Although there has been some recent deterioration, sentiment for the dollar versus the European currencies remains overbought, while sentiment for the yen is now viewed as neutral.

The strength of recent weeks may be sufficient to signal that a medium term rally is under way, with indicated resistance about 88.00. The long-term (post-February) downtrend remains intact, with long term resistance in the 89.00-91.00 range. The index has so far held support at 84.90, but a decisive break of that level could well signal further weakness to below 83.00 and perhaps a full test to the 1992 low near 78.00.

Japanese yen

Fundamental view: The dollar has strengthened only modestly against the yen despite the Fed's larger-than-expected 75-basis point rate hike on Nov. 15 and recent evidence that Japan's trade surplus continues to shrink gradually. The Fed's tilt toward a more restrictive stance could help support the dollar around its current level of JPY/USD 98.4, a bit longer, but we think the need for massive dollar buying by the Bank of Japan (BOJ) and the Fed in recent weeks underscores the lack of demand for U.S. assets by foreign investors.

Japan's trade surplus continues to shrink, with the surplus in October down 15% to \$9.3 billion. That trend should eventually help to support the dollar but the problem has been with capital flows. Japan's private capital outflows — including short- and long-term capital — have shrunk even faster than the trade surplus in recent quarters, leaving it to the Bank of Japan mop up the excess supply of dollars. With Japan's economy continuing to recover, we do not expect any further easing from the Bank of Japan.

However, the scheduled appointment in December of a new BOJ governor who hails from Japan's ailing banking industry has prompted speculation that interest rate will remain low for longer. We continue to expect the dollar to weaken further against the yen over the next 6-to-12 months, to as low as JPY/USD even as the Fed continues to tighten monetary policy.

REVOLUTION IN JEWELLERY

Gold & Gems Jewellery
Amman and Rio de Janeiro

Egypt sets new guidelines for dollar sales

CAIRO (R) — The Central Bank of Egypt has told commercial banks not to sell dollars to other banks without checking on the purpose of the sale, the deputy governor has said.

"All the banks are to make sure that the application to buy is a genuine one," Mohammad Al Barbari told Reuters, saying "genuine" included financing imports and repaying debts, but not selling dollars to another bank for a marginal profit.

Foreign exchange dealers in Cairo earlier this week the central bank, anxious to prevent arbitrage between its own dollar rate and those of

commercial banks, was asking questions before it sold its own dollars.

The new guidelines, passed to commercial banks by telephone, go one step further and could be a device to prevent speculative sales of Egyptian pounds in anticipation of a devaluation.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has been pressing the government to devalue the pound to stimulate exports but the government has repeatedly said it has no intention of doing so.

Mr. Barbari said the central bank was not interested in the transfer of capital by

individuals or companies. "It is just between banks and banks," he said.

It was unclear how the central bank would enforce the guidelines in the Cairo foreign exchange market, which the government says operates solely by supply and demand.

Dealers said although the central bank had been selling small amounts of dollars slightly cheaper than commercial banks, many buyers did not bother to apply to the central bank because procedures were complicated and too many questions were asked.

It was not immediately clear how anyone could arbitrage between rates offered by two commercial banks.

Dealers said the foreign exchange was calm today despite a slight fall in the dollar rate over the past week.

The dollar is selling at about 3.4050 pounds.

One dealer said the pressures on the Egyptian pound always increased whenever government ministers sat down with representatives of the IMF.

The next round of talks on Egypt's economic reform programme is scheduled for the end of the month.

Iranian deputies approve \$136b plan

TEHRAN (R) — Parliament has approved a \$136 billion five-year plan for Iran after diluting, but not discarding, liberal reforms written into the draft presented by President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's government.

The plan, approved after a second debate which started last week, envisages \$73 billion in oil revenue and \$27 billion in non-oil exports between March 21, 1995 and March 20, 2000.

The government wants to put some pressure on the economy today so that we would not face a national catastrophe in the future," chief government planner

Massoud Roghani Zanjani told Resalat newspaper, defending the price rises called for in the plan.

Many of the changes made in committees and through proposals from the parliament floor were designed to confront foreign borrowing and limit subsidy cuts to cushion the impact of the reforms which have made inflation a widespread complaint.

The most important price rise is a doubling of fuel prices for the first year of the plan and provisions for later rises.

Immediate quadrupling of fuel prices to generate funds for investing in oil production.

"We insist that the amount of subsidies for basic goods such as rice and meat be set down now that we have voted to raise fuel prices and imposed a tax on television sets," deputy Mohammad Qomi said on the last day of the debate.

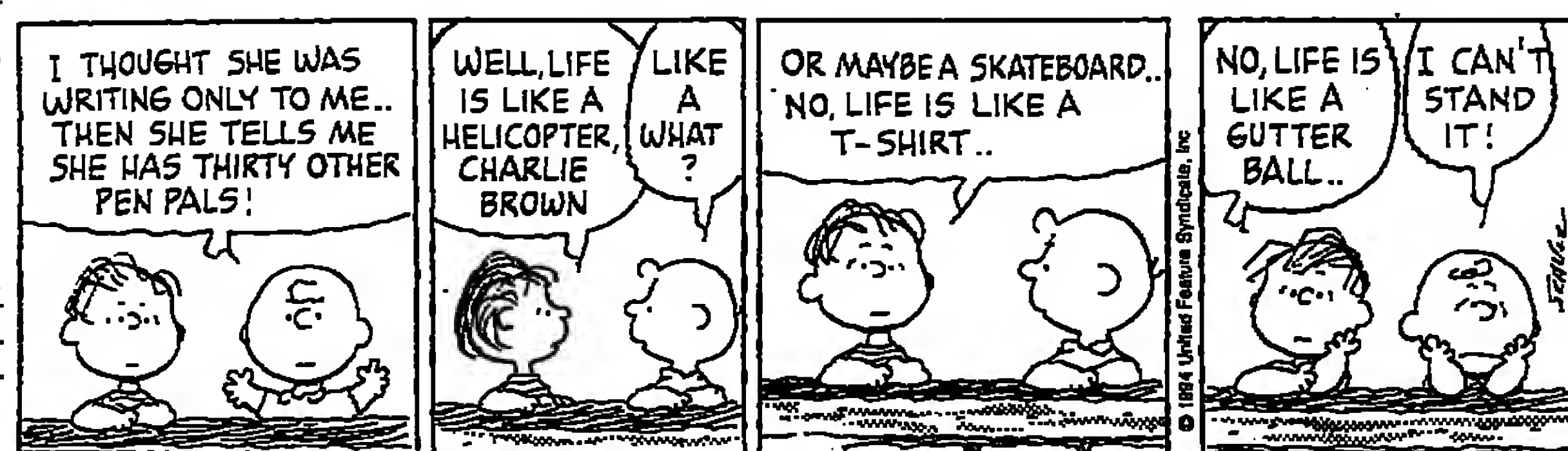
"There are sections of white-collar and blue-collar workers who cannot continue living under present conditions with the inflation," he said. A parliamentary commit-

tee doubled the cash plan allotted for import of subsidised staples to \$1.25 billion a year.

Inflation was officially set at 22 per cent in the last Iranian year ended on March 20, but prices have since risen sharply, prompting the government to launch an anti-inflation drive last month.

The new plan envisages an annual inflation rate of 12.4 and about the same growth in money supply. Money supply growth was one of the targets most seriously overshoot in the first plan as a result of a sharp devaluation of the rial last year.

Peanuts



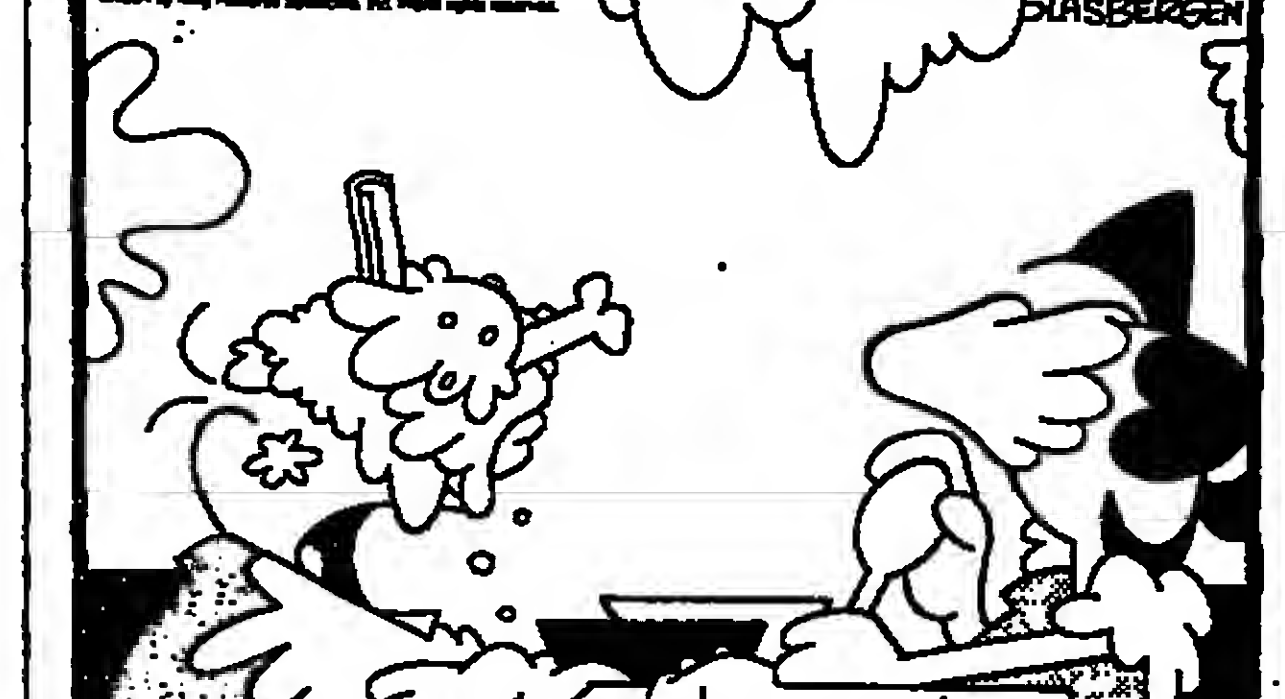
Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YANGO
_ _ _ _ _

BUDOT
_ _ _ _ _

SMABAL
_ _ _ _ _

GEDDUR
_ _ _ _ _

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: THE _ _ _ _ _

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLAKE ELEGY CORRAL RITUAL
Answer: What the birds gave the nature lovers — A REAL TRILL

Technical view: The Japanese yen fell 0.3% versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Nov. 11. Sentiment continues to deteriorate and is now viewed as neutral. Despite the fact that momentum only moved to neutral from its prior overbought readings, there are some initial signs of renewed strength. This will have to be monitored closely in coming weeks. The underlying uptrend is still intact, and important support exists in the 100.80-101.80 Y/U.S.\$ range. Important resistance remains at 96.60-97.60; a break of that level would allow for a move through 93.

Deutschmark

Fundamental view: Following the sweeping Republican victory in U.S. mid-term elections, the Fed's larger-than-expected rate 75 basis point rate hike on Nov. 15 has helped the dollar recover to the DM/USD 1.55 level. The Fed more aggressive stance may support the dollar in the near term, but we are convinced that the dollar has bottomed out from a longer-term perspective. America's external borrowing requirements remain huge, but foreigners may continue to shun U.S. capital markets until they are convinced that interest rates are close to a peak. Futures markets are pricing in a rise in U.S. short-term interest rates to nearly 7.4% by next September, and foreigners investors are not likely to be confident holders of U.S. financial assets until the yield curve is flatter and futures markets point to less need for tightening ahead.

On the German side, there is not expected to be a change in monetary policy any time in the next several quarters. Bundesbank officials have made it clear that they consider dollar weakness to be a U.S. problem that should be dealt with by U.S. policy, including interest rate hikes. Fed tightening should eventually help the dollar rebound against the Deutschmark, but we expect the rally to come from lower levels. We continue to expect the dollar to trade down to DM/USD 1.45 over the next six-to-12 months.

Technical view: The Deutschmark declined 1.0% against the U.S. dollar last week. Despite recent improvement, sentiment for the D-mark remains at overbought readings. Momentum has been deteriorating since August, and still seems to have the potential to remain under pressure for the rest of the year. This suggests that the D-mark's underlying post-February uptrend is the process of forming a top; the likelihood of lower D-mark levels over the next three to six months appears to be fairly good.

Even so, a decline back through at least 1.54 DM/U.S.\$ and more likely 1.60, still seems needed to actually reverse the uptrend and fully substantiate the action of momentum. Strong resistance remains at 1.48; the currency recently tested that level, and a penetration would allow for at least a challenge of 1.398.

Against the yen, the D-mark fell 0.7% last week. Medium-term oscillators remain at overbought levels and appear to be deteriorating, this suggests a potential test of the lows of the long-term trading range. That range generates at 59-60, with resistance above 66.50.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Start this new week right by analysing and studying all that is practical and make your changes accordingly so that you enjoy a greater amount of efficiency and productivity both at home and at work.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) This is not the day for worldly activities or interests but at the same time you can consider your personal aims and make progress in a plan to gain them.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Instead of seeking some new ways to have a more secure structure to your life make sure that you come up with a very up to date prominent person.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Instead of doing the same old things with your attachment try out some advanced and unique means by which to enjoy yourself this day.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Don't try to wow a partner by doing the same thing or make same plans over and over by finding new ways to reduce joint venture to a success.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Don't get involved in usual routine duties but you make the biggest progress by getting out in the world and drinking in fascinating outlets.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Make a point now to avoid entertainment activities for they would disappoint and get you.

Birthstone of November: Topaz-Tiger's Eye

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Whatever you have in mind to attend of a material manner is best done during the coming weekdays and now you can visit fascinating companions.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Your own ideas are not good or likely to be productive of good results but you have an adviser who is up on the current conditions who can be helpful.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You can take some highly inspired ideas how best to gain your unusual objectives so go after them and don't hang onto a depressing condition.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Seek out persons and periodicals that are very up to date in their views and plan your future activities from them and don't with a project that stifles you.

THE Daily Crossword by Raymond Hamel

ACROSS

1 Versus de

5 An movement

9 Meat

13 Type of rug

14 Cucumber

15 Post Military

16 John Osborne novel

19 Metal

20 Tune

21 Sesame and Baker

22 Sher

24 Cause of overtime

25 Conveniently

26 Signore

32 Start of "The Raven"

33 Seasonal stamp

34 Fish eggs

35 Acoustic

36 Bk.

38 Fictional alteration

39 Polished off

40 Layer of paint

41 It comes before

42 Unattractive

47 Mountain: pref.

48 Try del

49 Cheese

53 Kerguelan's mallow

54 Signless bird

57 Civil War battle site

60 Church recess

61 Lock of hair

62 Lyrics of song

63 River to the North Sea

64 Hostessess

65 Bakery item

7 Platform

8 "a Shame"

9 Plywood layer

10 Adventure

11 Dk. old style

12 Forsman

13 (Secondary) tent

14 Utensils, old style

15 Cauter fiber mass

16 Provost in "The Tempest"

22 Lull

23 alone

25 Director Joshua

26 a customer

27 Certain group

28 Social reception

29 and run

30 Blood carrier

31 Brewery need

32 Palm fruit

33 Litter

34 NMI record

35 Piece of

36 Piece of

37 Piece of

38 Piece of

39 Piece of

40 Piece of

41 Piece of

42 Piece of

43 One who dendas

44 Inlucove

45 Place

46 Sign

47 Litter

48 Litter

49 Litter

50 Butterfingers' cry

51 Power

52 Flacon of

53 Yucatan Indian

54 Sly sound

55 of Cleves

56 KMI de

57 Nume's ad

58

Russia seeks foothold in Gulf market

DUBAI (AFP) — Russia, dogged by economic difficulties at home, hopes to carve out a place for itself in the lucrative Gulf market during a six-day visit to the region by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin starting Saturday.

Mr. Chernomyrdin will visit Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Oman, on the first official visit by a head of government from the former Soviet Union.

The oil-rich Gulf exerts a strong attraction for Russia, which has only a tiny share of its market so far.

Annual imports by Arab Gulf monarchies — worth \$50 billion — come mainly from the United States, Japan and Europe.

The principle aim of the visit is "economic" rather than political, according to a government spokesman in Moscow.

The Russian delegation

which includes Energy Minister Viktor Chafraňnik as well as senior foreign ministry, economic and military industry officials, will concentrate on "energy and cooperation in military technology," the spokesman said.

Hundreds of thousands of nationals from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), especially Russians, are carrying out a thriving unofficial trade with several

Last year around 400,000 CIS nationals visited the UAE where they spent nearly \$1 billion, mainly on electronic equipment and taxes.

The Russian news agency Interfax said Russia would sign trade and economic cooperation accords with Saudi Arabia, Oman and Kuwait during Mr. Chernomyrdin's visit.

Moscow also hopes to sell military equipment to Gulf

Daily Business Beat

The following is a new column summarising financial and economic news that appeared a day earlier in Jordan's Arabic dailies. The news is compiled by our economic editor Samir Shafiq Ghawi

★★ Fierce competition is raging among 44 candidates for 12 seats on the board of the Arman Chamber of Commerce as the contestants continue their campaign to win votes. Ten incumbents are running for reelection. The 44 contestants are mainly grouped in three blocs, each comprising 12 candidates. The eight left are running as independents. Elections are to be held Monday, Dec. 5, 1994 (Sawt Al Shaab).

☆☆ Tafileh residents are complaining of high tomato prices, which reached 520 fils a kilogramme. Claiming that tomatoes were not reaching a wide sector of the population, Tafileh requested the authorities to provide the product to the people at a reasonable price before considering tomato exports to neighbouring states (Al Ra'i)

★★ Qasem Al Omari, director of mining at the National Resources Authority, told Petra, the Jordan News Agency, that the Kingdom had earned JD 439 million in 1993 from mining raw minerals and the mining industry. He added that the value of exports of raw minerals and products of mining industries amounted to JD 259 million last year (Al Ra'i).

☆☆ Industry and Trade Minister Rima Khalaf will deliver a speech on "economic challenges in the coming era" on Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at Philadelphia Hotel. Dr. Khalaf will be speaking at the invitation of the Jordan Trade Association (Sawt Al Shaab).

☆☆ A Royal Decree has sanctioned a regulation under which prizes would be given yearly to exceptional exporters. Called "Al Hussein Appreciative Prizes for the Exceptional Exporter," they would be given to any person or company that (1) develops national exports; (2) produces products that can be exported to international markets, (3) improves the quality of national production by making it more competitive in outside markets; (4) promotes products or national services and markets them in new and non-traditional markets (Al Ra'i).

☆☆ The Department of Land and Survey has collected JD 52,796,059 in revenue during the first ten months of this year. The amount is five per cent more than the revenue during the same period last year, when the amount was JD 50,460,632. According to the department's director general, revenues this year were steady and regular unlike the flow in 1993 when the revenues were highly fluctuating (Ad-Dustour).

☆☆ Akher Khabar, the Company that launched an afternoon newspaper a few months ago, has invited the shareholders to an extraordinary general assembly meeting, to be held Monday, Nov. 21, 1994. No details about the agenda for the meeting were given Ad-Dustour).

★ 72 industrial companies are participating in an exhibition organised by the Jordan Export Development and Commercial Centres Corporation. Products on display at Amman International Exhibition include television sets, heating and air conditioning units, refrigerators and washing machines. Other electrical industries are displaying products at the exhibition which will be open daily until Nov. 21, 1994. Ad-Dustour).

☆☆ The market for used cars is reported to be in temporary stagnation as buyers insist on lower prices while sellers insist that the recent customs tariff changes were inapplicable because they (sellers) had bought their cars at higher prices. Many used cars traders said they had not made a single deal since customs tariffs were amended. A general manager for a haraj (used car market) said prices of used Japanese cars have gone down by 30 per cent while, prices of used American cars have gone down by 40 per cent after calculating the reduction in tariffs for the new cars. Many people, however, are also complaining that merchants are not abiding by the reduction in prices on car spare parts (Ad-Dustour).

★★ The Department of Land and Survey has recommended to the Prime Ministry an amendment to the law of real estate hypothecated against credit. According to the proposal, an auction of the hypothecated property should not be opened for less than 50 per cent of the estimated value of the mortgaged real estate upon its seizure (Ad-Dustour).

Financial Markets

Jordan Times
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Date 16/11/94	Tokyo Close Date 17/11/94
Sterling Pound*	1.5735	1.5747
Deutsche Mark	1.5505	1.5487
Swiss Franc	1.3043	1.3017**
French Franc	5.3240	5.3139**
Japanese Yen	98.36	98.24
European Currency Unit	1.6683	1.2307**

* USD Per STG

** European Opening at 8:00 A.M. GMT

Eurocurrency Interest Rates

Date: 17/11/1994

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.31	5.68	5.93	6.31
Sterling Pound	5.57	5.75	6.18	6.75
Deutsche Mark	4.75	5.00	5.06	5.43
Swiss Franc	5.37	5.68	3.87	4.31
French Franc	5.31	5.50	5.75	6.25
Japanese Yen	2.13	2.20	2.32	2.65

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 17/11/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6980	0.7000
Sterling Pound	1.0977	1.1082
Deutsche Mark	0.4502	0.4526
Swiss Franc	0.5351	0.5378
French Franc	0.1311	0.1318
Japanese Yen *	0.7097	0.7132
Dutch Guilder	0.4017	0.4037
Swedish Krona	0.0439	0.0441
Italian Lira *		

Other Currencies		Date: 17/11/1994
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8360	1.8480
Lebanese Lira*	0.041180	0.042358
Saudi Riyal	0.1850	0.1867
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3050	2.3650
Qatari Riyal	0.1905	0.1918
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2200
Omani Riyal	1.7950	1.8150
UAE Dirham	0.1896	0.1904
Greek Drachma*	0.2755	0.3115
Cypriot Pound	1.8450	1.4970

JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKET					
BANKING BANK CORP. AMMAN - BAKHLEEL					
TELEPHONE: 66110 / 66110					
UNOFFICIAL FOREIGN TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD 12/15/1994 - 16/11/1994					
WEEKLY REPORT					
COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME JD	ENTRY CLOSING PRICE	OFFERING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
AMMAN BANK	633,490	184.000	184.500	187.000	
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	677,787	4.350	4.420	4.770	
BANK OF JORDAN	187,117	356.000	355.000	355.000	4.000
ALFARAJ INVESTMENT BANK	79,997	1.730	1.770	1.770	1.730
INTERNATIONAL TRADING BANK	475,933	2.970	2.970	2.970	2.970
THE JORDANIAN BANK	258,043	5.570	5.650	5.650	5.500
AMMAN BANKING CORP. BAKHLEEL	676,000	3.950	4.000	4.000	4.000
JORDAN PETROL BANK	137,173	1.770	1.770	1.770	1.750
JORDAN LITHIUM BANK	502,331	3.680	3.750	3.850	3.850
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	12,352	4.080	4.050	4.050	4.050
BOKHREJA BANK	194,200	3.350	3.500	3.500	3.800
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	47,987	4.850	5.050	5.050	5.260
INTERNATIONAL TRADING BANK FOR HOUSING	251,583	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.350
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	331,378	1.610	1.630	1.630	1.630
AMMAN BANKING CORP. BAKHLEEL	156,934	3.940	4.000	4.000	4.000
WILHELMSSA INVESTMENT BANK	105,492	5.850	5.890	5.890	5.840
GERMANIA AMMAN INVESTMENT	136,693	3.590	3.650	3.650	3.600
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	66,218	2.510	2.560	2.560	2.560
AMMAN LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	134	2.650	2.680	2.680	2.680
THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE	600	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000
AL-FEEL AL-BANAY INSURANCE	17,1778	4.150	4.150	4.150	3.900
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	137,938	1.620	1.610	1.610	1.620
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	382,896	1.550	1.550	1.550	1.550
JORDAN BANK & TOURISM	7,544	3.950	4.000	4.000	4.000
JORDAN HOTEL NATIONAL	6,455	0.820	0.840	0.840	0.900
AMMAN INTERNATIONAL HOTELS	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
JORDAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES	105,223	3.340	3.340	3.340	3.350
NATIONAL LOGISTICAL SERVICES	70,583	3.640	2.700	2.700	2.710
JORDAN GULF HOLD. SERVICE	1,014	1.934	1.934	1.934	1.934
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	4,545	1.110	1.140	1.140	1.130
WILHELMSSA HOTEL, RESORTS & VACATIONSPARKS	2,990	0.820	0.840	0.840	0.840
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	11,766	1.700	1.700	1.700	1.700
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT / AL-FEEL	5,508	1.440	13.770	13.770	13.770
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT / AL-FEEL	943,817	2.460	2.490	2.490	2.550
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	251,583	3.480	3.480	3.480	3.480
JORDANIAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	620	1.340	1.470	1.470	1.390
JORDANIAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	1,014	1.934	1.934	1.934	1.934
THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	770,692	2.800	2.800	2.800	2.800
JORDAN PROGRESSIVE PAPER	725,284	2.680	2.680	2.680	2.700
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
WOLFEIN INDUSTRIES	1,250	1.850	1.880	1.880	1.880
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
THE JORDAN WOODEN CASES	177,494	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750
AMMAN PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	679,135	6.500	6.400	6.400	6.400
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
JORDAN BAKT	450	0.250	0.260	0.260	0.260
THE JORDAN PAPER MANUFACTURING	26,832	3.250	3.840	3.840	3.950
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
SPINNING & WEAVING	137,442	2.450	2.710	2.710	2.730
ALFA INDUSTRIAL	71,323	2.750	2.750	2.750	2.750
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
AMMAN INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE	229,437	1.010	1.050	1.050	1.020
AMMAN ALLOCATION INVESTMENT	79,282	7.190	7.800	7.800	7.400
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
INTERNATIONAL TRADING BANK	475,933	2.970	2.970	2.970	2.970
NATIONAL TRADING BANK	135,511	3.680	3.750	3.850	3.850
INTERNATIONAL TRADING BANK FOR HOUSING	251,583	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.350
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
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JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150
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JORDAN PETROL BANK SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	19,163	5.450	5.170	5.170	5.150

GRAND TOTAL		11,506,482		
PARALLEL MONTHLY EARNING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIODS 12/31/79 - 12/31/1979				
WEEKLY REPORT				
COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME	PREY. CLOSING PRICE	OFFERS	CHANGING PRICE
ANAS CONTRACTORS	84,000	1.800	1,000	1.000
CENTRAL GENERAL TRADING & STORAGE	10,790	0.880	0.500	0.890
JORDAN TRADING FACILITIES	119,762	0.400	0.000	0.370
JORDAN PRIVATE UNIVERSITY	1,481	3.400	1,400	3.000
JORDAN TRADING AND INDUSTRIAL SALES TRANS.	913,010	2.460	500	2.600
ANAS FINANCIAL INVESTMENT	500,434	1.300	1,000	1.300
ANAS FOOD & MEDICAL APPLIANCES	1,979	1.100	1,410	1.100
NATIONAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES CO. LTD	64,912	2.400	2,100	2.420
NATIONAL TEXTILE & PLANTING CO. CO	1,378	1.110	1,410	1.100
JORDAN AIR CABLE COMPANY	126,072	0.950	2,130	2.140
NATIONAL MEDIA GROUPS	701,620	1.520	1,540	1.540
EL-SAYED BAKRY MANUFACTURING CO.	41,828	2.360	2,000	2.000
INTERNATIONAL TORONCO & CIGARETTES	284,830	1.940	1,560	2.010
UNIVERSAL HOTEL INC.	16,446	2.290	2,000	2.100
NATIONAL ENTERPRISES PROPERTIES	10,400	1.460	1,000	1.500
UNION CHEMICAL & FERTILIZER CO. JORDANIA	10,272	2.930	2,050	2.960
GRAND TOTAL	2,316,053			

African trade bank formally begins operations, prefers good risks

CAIRO (R) — The new African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) formally began operations in Cairo Wednesday and billed itself as one of the keys to stimulating trade between African countries and with the rest of the world.

But Afreximbank President Christopher Edozua told reporters that African countries in dire straits would probably not be eligible for loans for trade unless they could come up with some kind of structure financing arrangement.

The bank, based on an idea from the African Development Bank, is owned by 23 African states, 16 African central banks and 86 financial institutions in Africa and

syndicated loan of \$150 million, and itself lent \$6.5 million, for pre-shipment finance of cocoa purchases in

The Third transaction was \$5 million towards a \$15 million loan to a copper marketing board in southern Africa.

Mr. Edorodu said terms would vary from country to country, and borrower to borrower, with low-risk countries like Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco borrowing a 0.75 per cent above LIBOR.

The terms in this case were

two per cent above the Paris Inter Bank Offered Rate, (PIBOR). Areximbank made its contribution in dollars but Mr. Edorou did not say how big it was.

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putting them in touch with the international debt market, he said.

The bank is now arranging a shipment of petroleum products into Rwanda by Mauritania company on behalf of an international aid agency working there, he added.

"So even in a country like Rwanda you can finance trade if you are imaginative," Mr. Edordu said.

Immediately after the launching ceremony Wednesday, Afreximbank signed on agreement to cooperate with the Trade and Development Bank of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) and on with Equator Bank on pre-shipment financing of mineral exports in eastern and southern Africa.

Equator Bank is majority owned by the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC).

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171

1st Division Basketball Championship

Hussein score vital win over Homentmen; Ahli, Orthodoxi continue unbeaten streak

By Aileen Bannayan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Al Hussein scored their first win and took the initial step towards securing their place in the First Division Basketball Championship when they overcame Homentmen 67-54 Thursday and added a precious two points to their standings.

In other matches, Al Ahli could only score a 96-69 win over Al Jalil — the titleholders' first win below the 100 point mark — while Al Orthodoxi scored a big 107-59 victory over Al Watani who will need to defeat Al Hussein Sunday in order to decide which team will accompany Homentmen to the second division.

Al Hussein's win Sunday ended Homentmen's chances of avoiding relegation after the team failed to score the necessary minimum number of three wins. Nevertheless Homentmen might have easily scored their first win had their lineup been complete, as Al Hussein played their worst match and capitalised on their opponents ball-

handling mistakes and individual play.

Homentmen missed the efforts of playmaker Robert Chatmajian and Vasken Ajemian, both of whom would have been instrumental in assisting their teammates score a face-saving win.

Homentmen had a bad start to the game as many key players and even their coach were not present at the start of the match since the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) had recently announced the match would be held at 8 p.m., while the referees insisted that it begin at 7:30 according to the previous schedule announced at the beginning of the competition. Thus players who had come early to watch the previous match formed the original lineup!

Al Hussein took the lead early in the match at 16-9, but Sevan Sarkissian narrowed the gap to 19-15.

However, Al Hussein again succeeded in widening the gap 28-18 before Sarkissian and teammate Vicken Avakian managed to catch up at 28-24.

Homentmen's Avakian

was the top scorer in the second half, as most bench players who represented his team in this match lacked the experience and were not effective, while Al Hussein easily scored through fast breaks taking advantage of many loose balls and intercepted passes.

Al Hussein led 62-45 before Homentmen managed to score in the final minutes ending the match with a 13-point win for Al Hussein.

In an earlier match, former champions Al Orthodoxi turned up with only seven key players against Al Watani giving Mudar Barakat and Jack Koro a rest to heal their injuries before their important match against titleholders Al Ahli.

Al Orthodoxi tried their full court press defence by which they took total control of the match and ended the first half 52-21.

Al Watani managed to better their score in the second half, but Al Orthodoxi ended the match with a 107-59 win.

In Friday, Al Jalil gave the titleholders a hard time be-

fore losing 96-69.

To everyone's amazement, scoring remained close throughout the first half as Al Ahli led 25-16 before ending the first half with a mere 10-point win at 43-33.

Al Jalil managed to catch up early in the second half and reduced the gap to 58-51!

However, Al Ahli altered their style in the second half and built a fast lead at 76-58 before sealing their fourth consecutive win.

Al Ahli now lead the standings with eight points from four matches, followed by Al Jazireh, Al Orthodoxi and Al Jalil.

The four teams seem set to maintain standings

among the top, while Al Watani, Homentmen and Al Hussein are fighting to avoid relegation.

Two teams will be relegated this season while only one will be promoted from the second division reducing the number of competing teams to six as of the 1995 season, compared to the previous eight when two teams were relegated and two were promoted until 1992.

The JBF introduced the reduction of the number of teams in the 1993 season when two teams were relegated and only one was promoted, making the number of this year's teams seven for the first and final time.

STANDINGS

	P	W	L	SF	SA	Pts.
Ahli	4	4	—	480	216	8
Jazireh	4	3	1	333	305	7
Orthodoxi	3	3	—	315	170	6
Jalil	4	2	2	324	301	6
Watani	5	1	4	340	467	6
Homentmen	5	—	5	225	488	5
Hussein	3	1	2	197	267	4

*Orthodoxi-Hussein have a postponed match.

Baseball strike talks resume

HERNDON, Virginia (AP) — Striking U.S. Major League Baseball players received a 102-page contract proposal from owners that calls for a "tax" on revenues and payrolls. It was management's first new offer since June 14.

In a windowless conference room at a hotel in suburban Washington, the two sides met together for four hours Thursday. Players left the meeting carrying blue folders containing copies of the proposal.

Neither side would reveal details of the offer, and the players said they wanted to read the entire proposal before the commenting.

"They did not go over it page-by-page. They summarised it," Union Executive Mark Belanger said.

Added Kansas City pitcher David Cone: "We've got to read it. Talk to our economists about it and see what its impact would be. There are some guys who probably won't get much sleep tonight."

No one from management made himself available for comment.

"I will not characterise the discussions today, other than to say we're here discussing the issues," said mediator W. J. Usery, appointed by President Clinton. "We'd all like an agreement and both sides are working hard to get one."

The players were pessimistic before the session, and Cone said bargaining was intense. Owners are trying to bargain for an economic system that will help struggling small-market teams compete on a somewhat equal financial basis. Owners have shelved their earlier proposal, which guaranteed players half of all revenues in exchange for a cap on team salaries.

Players went out on strike August 12 to protest the owners' desire to impose a salary cap. The owners retaliated a month later by cancelling the season and the championship World Series which had been played every year since 1904.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Aqaba skiing competition concludes

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Youth Fawwaz Abu Ghanam deputised for His Majesty King Hussein at the Aqaba International Skiing competition, organised by the Royal Jordanian Marine Sports Federation and the Aquamarina Hotel. Fifty four competitors represented Belgium, France, Britain, Germany, Holland, Italy, Spain, and Jordan in the championship sanctioned by the International Skiing Federation.

Europe's sprint queen Lochsong retiring

LONDON (R) — European champion sprinter racehorse Lochsong is to be retired. Trainer Ian Balding said the mare had returned from the Breeders' Cup with a leg injury. Lochsong finished last in Kentucky but had dominated the European sprint scene for the past two years when she was unbeatable over five furlongs.

Papin in new injury agony

MUNICH (AFP) — Bayern Munich's French striker Jean-Pierre Papin was hit by new injury agony here Friday when he broke a bone in his left hand in training. The injury, which has already been operated on, will keep him out of Saturday's Bundesliga match with Karlsruhe. The former AC Milan player returned to action last week as a substitute after a prolonged knee injury to score his first goal of the season for his new club against Schalke 04.

France rocked by new soccer scandal

PARIS (AFP) — France was rocked by a new football scandal here Friday when Francis Borelli, president of first division side Cannes, was accused of financial fraud. The charges date back to when Borelli was president of reigning champions Paris Saint Germain, a post he took up in 1978 and which he held during the glory years that saw the club win the French Cup in 1982 and 1983 and lift their first league title in 1986. Borelli became president at Cannes in 1992. Last season Olympique Marseille, the 1993 European Champions, were relegated to the second division and stripped of their 1992/93 French title following a match-rigging scandal.

Bonaly, Kwan trail in French Trophy skating

LYON (AP) — Marie-Pierre Leray of France took the lead after the women's short programme Thursday of the French Trophy International Figure Skating Competition. The French Trophy is a new event in France this year, replacing the Laique Trophy which lost its competition status after a feud with the French Skating Federation over television rights. Favourites Surya Bonaly of France and Michele Kwan of the United States followed. Bonaly, the four-time European champion, fell on a triple Lutz and put her hand down on a double axel jump. Kwan, the 14-year-old who is the top American hope this year, was fourth.

Saudi Arabia captures Gulf Cup

ABU DHABI (AP) — Saudi Arabia clinched the Gulf Cup soccer championship for the first time in the tournament's 24-year history after outsmarting Kuwait for a 2-0 win in their final match. The Saudis finished with nine points from five matches, second place was host team United Arab Emirates, who defeated winless Oman 2-0 in the tournament's last match, and ended with eight points. The Arab World's premier soccer tournament, held every other year, began in 1970. It is held in round-robin format.

Olympians see television improving image of athletics

NEW YORK (R) — Two Olympic sprinters on Thursday lauded plans to televise next year's Mobil Indoor Track Field Circuit in the United States, saying it would raise long-overdue interest in the sport here.

"It is time for us to take our place in the world of sports and this series of track meets is the first stepping stone towards that," said Dennis Mitchell about the plans to broadcast five consecutive meets through February, beginning with the famed Milrose Games here at Madison Square Garden February 3.

Mitchell, the 1992 Olympic bronze medalist in the 100 metres, was joined by his Olympic teammate Michael

Johnson, a member of the gold medal winning American 4x100 relay team at a news conference.

"Track and field will be on TV every weekend for a month and it will look like a big show and that is going to be make it attractive to the fans," said Mitchell, who has committed to running in three of the events.

"The sport is no where near close to reaching its full potential. This will start to develop the fan base here to get track and field back on its feet," Johnson said.

It is ironic, to Mitchell, that a series like this is necessary to show the American fans what the rest of the world has seen for a long time.

Prolific Patriot passer poses problem

WASHINGTON (AFP) — New England quarterback Drew Bledsoe has become an aerial force in American Football, throwing opponents off balance by passing his way into the record books.

Bledsoe, the first choice in last year's National Football League (NFL) draft, has thrown for a league-best 3,031 yards. He tossed a one-game record 70 passes last week, rallying the Patriots over Minnesota 26-20 in overtime.

"It didn't seem like so many," said Bledsoe, who completed 45 passes for a team-record 426 yards and three touchdowns. "We were going to throw until they forced us to do something

else and they never did."

In 10 games, Bledsoe has completed 264 of 471 passes for 17 touchdowns and 18 interceptions. With six games remaining, Bledsoe could threaten the NFL single-season passing record of 5,084 yards set by Dan Marino in 1984.

Endurance is not a worry for Bledsoe, even after 70 passes in one game.

"My arm doesn't feel that bad. It's doing OK," he said Thursday. "It's a lot easier when you are completing them. We thought we could get them tired on defense and now that's a weapon we can use against other teams."

Expect Bledsoe to fill the skies again this week when the Patriots (4-6) host San

Diego, which had the NFL's worst pass defense last season. The Chargers (8-2) now share the NFL's top record with Dallas, San Francisco and Cleveland but have only one triumph over a contending club.

"I've never seen a quarterback throw that many times. I didn't think it was possible," San Diego defender Shawn Lee said. "It's truly amazing. And our defense is a lot like Minnesota's. But if he throws 70 again this week, I guarantee at least one interception."

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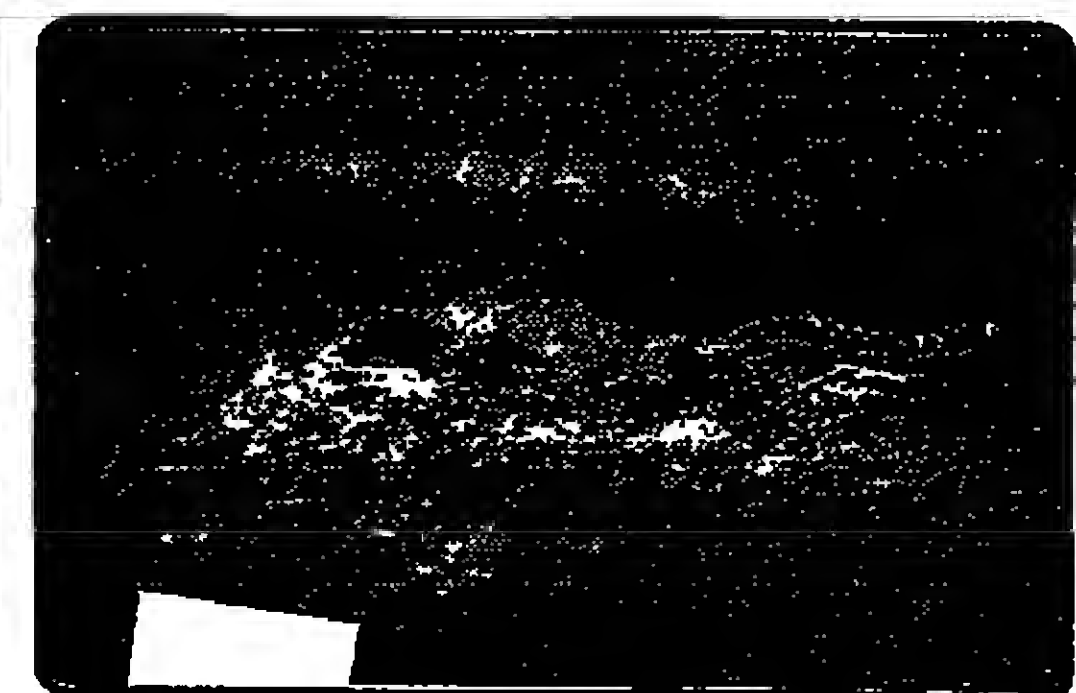
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TS IN BRIEF

Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, H.E. Fawaz al-Shaykh, announced that the 1994-95 season of the Jordanian Football Federation will be held in Amman, Jordan, from November 19 to December 1, 1994. The competition will be held in Amman, Jordan, from November 19 to December 1, 1994.

European champion sprinter, who won the 100m and 200m titles at the World Championships in Berlin, Germany, in 1993, will be competing in the 100m and 200m events at the 1994-95 season of the Jordanian Football Federation.

Queen Lochsong retiring

European champion sprinter, who won the 100m and 200m titles at the World Championships in Berlin, Germany, in 1993, will be competing in the 100m and 200m events at the 1994-95 season of the Jordanian Football Federation.

injury agony

European champion sprinter, who won the 100m and 200m titles at the World Championships in Berlin, Germany, in 1993, will be competing in the 100m and 200m events at the 1994-95 season of the Jordanian Football Federation.

led by new soccer scandal

European champion sprinter, who won the 100m and 200m titles at the World Championships in Berlin, Germany, in 1993, will be competing in the 100m and 200m events at the 1994-95 season of the Jordanian Football Federation.

trail in French Trophy skating

European champion sprinter, who won the 100m and 200m titles at the World Championships in Berlin, Germany, in 1993, will be competing in the 100m and 200m events at the 1994-95 season of the Jordanian Football Federation.

He captures Gulf Cup

European champion sprinter, who won the 100m and 200m titles at the World Championships in Berlin, Germany, in 1993, will be competing in the 100m and 200m events at the 1994-95 season of the Jordanian Football Federation.

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NBA
standout
traded to
Bullets

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chris Webber, last season's National Basketball Association rookie of the year, was traded from Golden State to Washington Thursday for forward Tom Gugliotta and three future draft choices.

The Bullets, who have not made the NBA playoffs in a decade, have strengthened their lineup with Webber. The cost was team captain Gugliotta plus first-round draft picks in 1996, 1998 and 2000.

Webber, who ended a holdout Wednesday, will be reunited with Juwan Howard, his former teammate at the University of Michigan. Howard was the final unsigned 1994 draft pick before closing a deal with the Bullets on Thursday.

Webber averaged 17.5 points, 9.1 rebounds and 3.5 assists a game last season, but had strained relations with Warriors coach Don Nelson.

Webber took advantage of an escape clause to renegotiate his 15-year, \$24 million contract and was a holdout this season until signing a 12-year, \$73.14 million deal Wednesday.

Howard and Webber will join the team Saturday for a practice session before playing their first NBA game together Saturday night when the Bullets host the Boston Celtics.

Howard averaged 15.3 points and 7.5 rebounds a game in three college seasons. Terms of his contract were not released, but the



Seattle Supersonics Gary Payton (right) collides with New Jersey Nets Kenny Anderson during their Nov. 15 match (AP photo)

NBA basketball results from Thursday:

New Jersey 111, Washington 103
Charlotte 99, L.A. Clippers 83
Houston 106, Chicago 83
Dallas 96, Sacramento 94
Detroit 94, Denver 92
Cleveland 81, Portland 80
Golden State 109, New York 100.

points and 7.5 rebounds a game in three college seasons. Terms of his contract were not released, but the

prospect of playing alongside Howard was key to bringing Webber to the nation's capital.

Maradona accused of inciting violence

BUENOS AIRES (R) — A referee and a senior soccer team official Thursday accused former superstar Diego Maradona of aggression and calling fans to attack them when his struggling team was losing a match.

Referee Angel Sanchez told a local radio station Maradona, who coaches Mandiyu in Argentina's Corrientes Province, that Maradona chased him into the changing rooms and kicked his shoulder after his team lost 2-1 to Independiente.

Independiente's vice-president Hector Grondona said Maradona shouted insults at him during the game and urged Mandiyu fans to attack him.

"Maradona is a menace," Grondona protested. "Had it not been for Mandiyu's president, who acted like a gentleman, I don't know whether I would have made it out of the field alive," he added.

"He is constantly inciting to violence. He is a challenge to security in any stadium," added Grondona.

Referee Sanchez, who gave Independiente a penalty, agreed, saying, "even worse than that were Maradona's remarks at a news conference inciting the people of Corrientes to join ranks for battle."

This could be a prelude to soccer violence, said Sanchez, adding he has filed a

report with the AFA.

The controversial Maradona has accused the Grondonas of "trying to send Mandiyu to the second division by decree."

Mandiyu is at the bottom of the Argentine championship, having failed to win a single one of the 12 matches played so far.

Maradona's presence failed to inject any stamina into the team — of the seven he has coached, Mandiyu lost four and drew three.

The 34-year-old ex-star has repeatedly accused the AFA chief of not coming to his support when he was expelled from U.S. World Cup finals earlier this year after failing a drugs test.

Pierce ousts Graf at Slims Championships

NEW YORK (R) — Mary Pierce pounded winners from both sides to blast her way past top-seeded Steffi Graf 6-4, 6-4 Thursday and claim a spot in the semifinals of the season-ending \$3.5 million Virginia Slims Championships.

The fifth-seeded Pierce, who shocked Graf 6-2, 6-2 in the semifinals of this year's French Open, pounced on her latest opportunity against the world number one with a relish, cutting down the sluggish German with an all-out assault from the baseline.

Graf, who looked pale and slow as she played her second match since being sidelined nine weeks for a back ailment, fought valiantly but could not withstand the fire behind the Frenchwoman's sizzling groundstrokes.

"I was really at on court," said Pierce, who raised her arms in triumph and yelled, "yes" to the cheering Madison Square Garden crowd after her one-hour, 29-minute victory. "I was hitting out on everything and I had all my shots working."

Pierce will meet the winner of the quarter-final between fourth seed Jana Novotna and seventh-seeded American Lindsay Davenport.

Pierce used her power to overcome an inconsistent first-round performance against South African Amanda Coetzer in which she sprayed 49 unforced errors in a three-set victory.

Against Graf, Pierce's drives were pinpoint.

Graf, whose season went downhill after winning the Australian Open, gave Pierce credit rather than blame her own lack of match fitness.

"I think she was extremely solid. She didn't make many mistakes and she was going for shots, taking risks," said Graf, who failed to successfully defend her titles this year at the French, Wimbledon and U.S. Championships, and now here at the Slims final.

"My back has been fine, much better than I expected it to be," Graf said. "I expected to play better."

"I'm really disappointed in the way I played."

A lone service break in the seventh game, when Pierce took advantage of Graf's inviting second serves, gave the Frenchwoman her winning margin in the first set, which she ended with an emphatic



Michael Chang

Pierce looked to be on a roll when she began the second set by breaking Graf at 15, with three of her points coming on service return winners.

But Graf revived, and broke right back at love.

Pierce survived two break points in the fourth game and stayed out of trouble with a brilliant point at deuce in the sixth game when, with a lunge, she turned a whistling backhand that seemed a sure Graf winner into a delicate cross court drop volley.

Graf succumbed to Pierce's pressure in the ninth game and lost her serve at love to trail 4-5 and leave the door open for Pierce to serve out the match.

"I was happy with my whole game tonight," enthused Pierce, who has reached five finals this year — at least one on every surface — but is without a tournament title.

Sampras outlasts Edberg, Agassi advances

In Frankfurt top-ranked Pete Sampras rallied from a set down to defeat Stefan Edberg Thursday and stay alive at the IBM/ATP Tour World Championship, while Andre Agassi became the first to advance to the semifinals by beating Michael Chang.

Sampras beat Edberg 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3), while Agassi raised his record to 2-0 with a 6-4, 6-4 victory over the fellow American.

In the last match Sergi Bruguera faced fellow Spaniard Alberto Berasategui.

If Bruguera wins, he will join Agassi in the semifinals. "It's great to get in to the

Navratilova loses again, this time in doubles

It was an encore of sorts. The ending, though, didn't change. Martina Navratilova walked off the court again Thursday night after losing in the Virginia Slims Championships.

Two nights after losing to Gabriela Sabatini in the singles, she and Manon Bollegraf of the Netherlands lost 6-2, 6-4 to Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Jana Novotna in a semifinal doubles match.

It wasn't pretty. Twice Navratilova served in the final set. And both times was broken, her once penetrating serve now being hammered back for winners.

Perhaps was only fitting that on the final point of her final match, she received serve, and wound up netting a backhand return.

The Madison square Garden crowd, smaller than the one that paid tribute to her Tuesday night, gave perhaps the greatest women's player of all time a standing ovation.

There were no miracle finishes this time, not like at Wimbledon in July when she reached the singles final.

Her number of doubles titles remains at a record 165. She also won a record 167 singles championships in a career that began in 1974.

While she officially has retired from playing singles on the WTA Tour. She has hinted that she might continue to play doubles.

Navratilova by the numbers

Number 1: Navratilova held the world number one ranking in women's tennis a total of 381 weeks — that's seven years and 17 weeks.

July 10, 1978-January 13, 1979 (27 weeks); January 28-February 24, 1979 (4 weeks); April 16-June 24, 1979 (10 weeks); September 10, 1979-April 6, 1980 (30 weeks); April 21-June 30, 1980 (10 weeks); May 3-16, 1982 (2 weeks); June 14, 1982-June 9, 1985 (156 weeks); October 14-27, 1985 (2 weeks); November 25, 1985-August 16, 1987 (140 weeks).

2: She won at least two singles titles every year from 1975 through 1993.

3: She won the Australian Open singles title three times.

4: She won the U.S. Open singles title four times.

6: Navratilova's career has spanned six U.S. presidential administrations, from Richard Nixon to Bill Clinton.

8: Navratilova has won singles titles in eight different countries.

9: She won Wimbledon a record nine times, the only player to win that many editions of any one Grand Slam except Margaret Court, who won the Australian Open 11 times.

12: She won the Virginia Slims of Chicago 12 times. In recognition of that feat, Chicago declared February 12, 1992, Martina Navratilova Day.

18: She won a total of 8 Grand Slam singles titles, second only to Margaret Court's 24.

23: She reached a record 23 consecutive finals from June 12, 1983-November 25, 1984.

37: She won 37 Grand Slam doubles titles, 31 women's doubles and six mixed. She completed a double Grand Slam with Pam Shriver in 1984.

74: She won 74 straight matches in 1984, the longest consecutive match streak ever.

80: She played Chris Evert 80 times. She lost 21 of their first 25 matches, but finished their career head-to-head 43-37.

84: Navratilova has won both singles and doubles titles at the same event a record 84 times.

165: She has won 165 doubles titles on the women's tour.

167: She has won 167 singles titles, beating Jimmy Connors' men's tour record of 109.

1,438: Navratilova has won 1,438 of her 1,649 competitive singles matches, losing just 211.

20,052,227: Navratilova has won \$20,052,227 in prize money.

Georgia humiliate Wales in European qualifier

LONDON (AP) — Wales suffered the most humiliating defeat in its history Wednesday, losing 5-0 to its time entrant Georgia in qualifying for the 1996 European Championship.

The loss, coupled with a 2-1 defeat last month in another former Soviet Republic, Moldova, all but closed the door on Welsh hopes for qualifying for the finals. Though it's still early in the tournament, Wales must play four of its seven remaining games against top favorites Germany and Algeria.

"The players and myself

are ashamed," Wales manager Mike Smith said. "We should have done a lot better than that. How can I sum up a game like that? They were far better than us."

In numerical terms, it was Wales' biggest defeat since a 6-1 loss to France in 1953. Georgia, which is playing in the Europeans for the first time since gaining independence, scored its first goals and earned its first points in the competition. The team previously lost to Moldova and Bulgaria.

Although Smith could not call upon Manchester United Winger Ryan Giggs, who

missed the game through injury, his strikeforce had another United star. Mark Hughes, as well as Liverpool's Ian Rush and Dan Saunders of Aston Villa, some of Europe's most feared strikers.

But it was the Welsh defense that was repeatedly torn apart by Georgia's swift forwards. Temoliz Ketsbaia netted twice, and other goals came from Georgi Kinkladze, Gocha Gogrichiani and Shota Arveladze in front of the joyous 25,000 fans at Dynamo Stadium in Tbilisi.

Also in Group 7, Germany opened its qualifying com-

paign with a 2-1 victory over Albania in front of a sellout crowd of 23,000 in Tirana. Strikers Juergen Klinsmann and Ulf Kirsten scored for Germany, which has never lost to the Balkan country in nine meetings.

Hysen Zmijani netted for Albania, and Ledio Pano nearly tied it in the dying seconds when his free kick hit the post, the Albanians have lost both their qualifying matches.

World Cup semifinalist Bulgaria moved into first place in the group, beating Moldova 4-1 on two goals from Barcelona forward

Hristo Stoichkov.

A total of 36 teams were in action Wednesday in the eight qualifying groups. Defending champion Denmark visited Spain, while World Cup finalist Italy hosted Croatia in later headline matches. In an exhibition game, England hosted Nigeria at Wembley.

Poland 0, France 0;

At Zabrze, Poland, France played to a scoreless draw for the third time in three qualifying matches.

Poland remained third in the group with four points in three matches.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMAR HIRSCH
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WHERE'S WALDO?

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

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♥ 9 6

♦ A K Q J 3

♣ A Q 4

WEST

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SOUTH

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♠ K 8 3

The bidding:

suit on the second round. North wasted no time in bidding the spade slam.

West led the jack of clubs and, when dummy appeared, it seemed declarer's only loser would be a trump. Unfortunately, for declarer, sitting East was Georges Tharon, regarded as one of Europe's great players whose career was cut short by a heart attack when still in his early forties.

Declarer won the opening club lead in dummy and cashed the king of spades. Tharon dropped the queen! Afraid that West had started with J 9 7 in trumps, declarer came to hand with the ten of diamonds and took the "safety" play of leading a low trump toward the ten.

West's jack of spades won the trick and East was able to ruff. The club return for a one-trick act. To drop the queen when you hold it doubtless is a relatively routine play in expert circles. To do so from East's holding is a stroke of genius!

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Big U.N. majority for Palestinian self-determination

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United States and Israel cast the only negative vote on Thursday when a U.N. committee reaffirmed, by an overwhelming majority, the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

The vote in the General Assembly's social, humanitarian and cultural committee was 124 to two, with 27 abstentions.

Russia which, together with the United States, is a sponsor of Middle East peace negotiations, was among those countries abstaining.

The resolution now goes to the assembly plenary, where it is certain to be endorsed.

In addition to reaffirming the Palestinians' right to self-determination, it expresses the hope that they might soon exercise this right in the current peace process. It also urges all states and U.N. agencies to continue to extend their support to the Palestinian people in their quest for self-determination.

The U.N. representative, after listing the progress made so far in the Middle East peace talks, said the resolution could only be understood as "an effort to shape the outcome of these negotiations and in so doing, it can undermine their very basis."

The role of the international community was "not to interject itself into controversy by siding with one side's position or the other's or to prejudice the outcome of the negotiations," he said.

Israel's envoy told the committee the resolution was intended to predetermine the outcome of permanent status talks between Israel and the Palestinians. These are due to begin no later than the

start of the third year of a five-year transitional period which began with Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area earlier this year.

He said this contradicted obligations undertaken by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in a declaration of principles signed with Israel in September 1993, as well as the principle of direct negotiations without preconditions.

The PLO's observer said those who opposed the right of self-determination for the Palestinians "would in practice be opposing history, law, the United Nations Charter and international law."

Genuine support for the peace process necessarily demanded that the Palestinian people be supported in exercising their right to self-determination, because otherwise there could be no just and lasting peace in the Middle East, he said.

Germany, speaking on behalf of the 12-nation European Union as well as Austria, Finland and Sweden, which all voted for the resolution, said the exercise of the right of self-determination was an ongoing process and could be implemented in a variety of ways.

It was also the European Union's long-standing position that reaffirmation of the Palestinians' right to self-determination went hand in hand with reaffirmation of the right of all countries in the region, including Israel, to live in peace within secure and internationally recognised borders. The EU welcomed the fact that both these elements were reflected in the amended version of the resolution that was adopted.

Hurricane Gordon whips N. Carolina

OCRACOE, North Carolina (AFP) — Hurricane Gordon, wheeling toward the U.S. mainland, lashed the barrier islands off North Carolina with fierce winds, blowing seaside cottages off their pilings, authorities said.

Meteorologists upgraded Gordon to a hurricane Thursday, after the storm that left a trail of death and destruction in the Caribbean and Florida strengthened in the Atlantic.

In Haiti, the toll from Gordon continued to climb with the number of people reported killed rising to 759 Friday. At least 50 people were missing there.

Gordon also caused the deaths of nine more people in Cuba, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic and left six dead in Florida.

The storm was nearly stationary at latitude 33.2 north, longitude 76.0 west, placing it about 140 kilometres off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, at around 1:00 p.m. (1800 GMT), according to the National Hurricane Centre in Coral Gables, Florida.

The centre reported Gordon had maximum sustained winds of 120 kilometres per hour, just above hurricane force.

"It is expected to drift erratically over the next 24 hours" and weaken, said hurricane centre spokesman Frank Lepore.

Officials have posted hurricane warnings from the Virginia-North Carolina border stretching 210 kilometres south to Bogue Inlet.

"We didn't expect it to strengthen as much as it did," said Bob Sheets, director of the centre, "It's just been a complex system," he added.

In Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, cottages perched on pilings were hurled into the sea.

Coastal residents, who thought they were out of harm's way, were surprised to find the storm was arching back toward the mainland.

"It's a total surprise," said Bob Florez, "because this morning it wasn't here and now it's here."

Gordon began off the Nicaraguan coast Nov. 8 and zig-zagged over the Caribbean to Haiti where it unleashed deadly flooding.

After sweeping over Jamaica and Cuba, Gordon crossed southern Florida spawning numerous tornadoes, flooding thousands of acres of fruit and vegetables, and killing six people.

Florida Governor Lawton Chiles declared a state of emergency for the southern and central part of the state, adding that it "complicates the task of the Europeans."

Mr. Major echoed the concern, although stopped short of open criticism of Washington over the move.

"We regret that our American allies have acted unilaterally, and without giving much concern for their allies on the ground," he said, reporting discussions between Mr. Major and French President Francois Mitterrand.

"We must convince the Americans not to continue down this path," he said.

France, U.K. have joint air command

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CLASHES IN GAZA: Muslim fundamentalists mourn one of their dead carried on a stretcher after being shot by Palestinian police during heavy clashes in Gaza City. Last reports give one policeman and 12 demonstrators dead and at least 200 people injured (see page one (AFP photo))

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mubarak warns Europe on new threat

LONDON (AFP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has warned Europe it could face a new wave of Middle East terrorism if it does not support the Palestinians. He said there will soon be an explosion in Gaza, more dangerous than Afghanistan. Mr. Mubarak told the Times newspaper in an interview published Friday prior to his European tour beginning Sunday. Mr. Mubarak said such unrest could destabilise the whole Middle East and spill over into Europe, saying "it is very easy to go from here to Europe especially as you have cells of (Muslim) fundamentalists all over Europe now. I blame the donors," he added, for donor countries had only paid up a tiny proportion of the \$2.34 billion of aid pledged to the Palestinian authority headed by Yasser Arafat. The donors "should hurry up," Mr. Mubarak added. "In Gaza there are no jobs, no infrastructure, no healthcare. If this goes on, nobody on earth could persuade the people there to stay calm," he warned. "An explosion would encourage many fundamentalists to go there and fight alongside the Palestinians. I hope people realise the danger."

Israeli right ahead in polls

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel's right-wing opposition would win elections if they were held today, according to an opinion poll published Friday. The Yediot Aharonot newspaper found that the Likud party would win 41 seats in the 120-member house compared with the 32 seats it now holds. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Labour Party would lose four seats and drop to 40 seats. His left-wing coalition partner Meretz would win nine seats, three fewer than in the 1992 elections. That would let in a nationalist-religious coalition with the backing of four or five minor parties. However, Mr. Rabin remained more popular than Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu, winning 46 per cent support against 42 per cent for his main rival. And in the next elections, scheduled for Nov. 1996, the prime minister is due to be elected directly for the first time. Parliament has in the past voted for the premier. Some 49 per cent of Israelis favoured dismantling Jewish settlements in the occupied territories while 46 per cent were against while five per cent voiced no view. The Dahaf Institute interviewed 500 Israelis on Tuesday for the survey which had an error margin of four per cent.

Greenpeace to analyse 'toxic waste' in Beirut

BEIRUT (AFP) — Experts from the environmental group Greenpeace have taken samples from dozens of barrels of toxic waste to determine their origin, spokesman Fuad Hamdan said on Friday. The experts who arrived Tuesday in Lebanon aboard the Greenpeace flagship Rainbow Warrior wore gas masks and special suits to open barrels, stored in two large containers at Beirut port, and take the samples, he said. Dozens of barrels of hazardous industrial waste were found in mountainous areas northeast of Beirut earlier this year, prompting a debate between the authorities and non-government organisations (NGOs) over their origin. "The way the barrels are stored is highly inadequate because organic vapours are leaking out of the containers," said Greenpeace scientist Ruth Stringer. "The vapours are strong irritants and the waste would be dangerous if handled without extreme care," she added. Lebanese Environment Minister Samir Moqbel has said the barrels contain "ethyl acetate and methyl acetate" — substances used to produce plastics.

Algeria to pay compensation for Italians

ROME (AFP) — Algeria has agreed to pay 150 million lira (\$600,000) in compensation to the families of seven Italian sailors murdered in Algeria last July, the government gazette said on Friday. The sailors were killed by a group of Algerians on board the moored Italian vessel, the Lucina, in the port of Djendjen. A member of the 15-strong gang who was arrested later said the sailors' throats were slit after binding their hands and feet.

14 killed in Kurdish rebel attack

ANKARA (AFP) — Fourteen people were killed in an attack by Kurdish rebels on the village of Col in the southeastern Turkish province of Siirt and in an ensuing clash between rebels and Turkish troops, the Anatolia news agency reported Friday. A group of "terrorists" — the official term to describe militants of the Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK) — shot dead ten villagers and kidnapped two others in Thursday night's attack, Anatolia said. Three Kurdish militants and a soldier were killed in the clash around the village of Palamut which followed the attack, Anatolia said.

Israel seeks boosted Egypt trade

CAIRO (AFP) — Israel has asked Egypt to help end the double taxation of goods passing through their border in a move to boost trade, an Egyptian official said Friday. Fakhreddine Abou Ezz, deputy economic minister, told journalists here after talks in Tel Aviv that the Israelis proposed an agreement which will prohibit the double taxation of goods crossing at Rafah, which lies on the border between Egypt and the Gaza Strip. Under the proposal each country would be assigned a certain number of goods to tax at the border, rather than having all of them taxed on both sides, Mr. Abou Ezz said. He also said the Israelis submitted a proposal "for the guarantee of investments" between the two countries, without elaborating.

Somali land insurrection crushed, Egal says

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Troops loyal to the government of the self-proclaimed Somali republic have crushed an insurrection in the capital Hargeisa, the region's "president," Mohammed Ibrahim Egal, said Friday.

Mr. Egal told AFP by telephone that the city was now "very calm" and denied reports that he had fled the capital of the region in the north of Somalia for the coastal town of Berbera.

Mr. Egal said at least 60 to 70 civilians were believed killed in the attacks since Tuesday, while the death toll for government forces was put at eight, with 20 wounded.

He said prisoners had been taken but did not give a casualty toll for the rebels.

Mr. Egal said his troops were preparing to "flush out" armed rebels still hiding in Hargeisa on Saturday or Sunday, describing them as "young boys" who behaved like bandits.

He denied a U.N. report that they were supporters of the founder of the breakaway republic in former British Somaliland, Abdurrahman Ahmad Ali, "Tur," who was ousted in February.

U.N. spokesman George Bennett on Thursday told AFP that Hargeisa came under attack Tuesday by forces loyal to Mr. Tur, and quoted rebel sources as saying the president had left the town.

Speaking from the Somali capital Mogadishu, Mr. Bennett said Mr. Tur's men claimed to control Hargeisa and that Mr. Egal had fled to his stronghold of Berbera, some 300 kilometres to the northeast on the Gulf of Aden.

But Mr. Egal said the rebels were "young boys" out to exact revenge on his government for ordering troops to dislodge them from Hargeisa airport where they wanted to continue "their very lucrative activities," levying taxes on arriving and departing flights.

Somaliland declared itself independent in 1991 after the fall of dictator Mohammed Siad Barre, as the rest of Somalia plunged into clan strife and mass starvation, leading to large-scale intervention by the United States and then the United Nations.

U.N. peacekeepers are all due to pull out by the end of next March. Rival clan leaders have failed to agree on forming an interim government, and Mr. Egal's regime has declared it will have nothing to do with the rest of the country, a former Italian-ruled territory.

The battle of the past few days is the first heavy fighting in Somaliland in more than a year and comes as the United Nations prepares to withdraw its 16,500 peacekeepers from southern Somalia by March 31.

The country's major warlords have been engaged for months in what U.N. spokesman Bennett on Thursday called a "destructive rivalry" to gain power following the U.N. withdrawal.

Sources reached by telephone in Hargeisa on Thursday spoke of heavy fighting near the central police station and the city's major open-air market.

Majali begins Qatar visit today

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Saturday starts an official visit to Qatar at the invitation of Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifa, the Qatari crown prince and defence minister.

An official announcement issued Friday said that Dr. Majali would spend several days in Qatar during which he would meet with the country's ruler, Sheikh Khalifa Ben Hamad Al Thani and other officials.

Dr. Majali's visit to Qatar "is an embodiment of brotherly relations between Jordan and Qatar and a manifestation on the part of the two countries to enhance and bolster ties between the two peoples," the statement said.

It said that the prime minister's talks would aim at further bolstering these relations and would also cover the peace process.

The prime minister is also expected to meet with Jordanians living in Qatar, the statement noted, adding that Dr. Majali will be accompanied by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan, director of his office Aktham Qousous and Rafe' Shahin, his press advisor.

Dr. Majali was quoted on Thursday as saying that his visit to Qatar was aimed at enhancing Qatari-Jordanian cooperation in all fields.

Speaking during a visit to the Audit Bureau, Dr. Majali said that Jordan was keen on restoring its strong ties with Arab states and reestablishing Arab solidarity.

On the eve of his visit to Qatar, Dr. Majali received in his office the Qatari minister of information and culture, Dr. Hamad Aziz Al Kuwari and an accompanying delegation.

He told the visiting Qatari official that Jordan was seeking to safeguard common interest Arab interests and strengthen ties with all Gulf countries.

He praised Qatar's active participation in the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process and its backing for Jordan's peace efforts.

Now that a peace treaty with Israel, the Kingdom is dedicating its efforts towards establishing a comprehensive peace in the region, the prime minister said.

Dr. Kuwari expressed Qatar's support for the treaty, and said that it would give impetus to the achievement of comprehensive peace on all tracks.

Speaking in the presence of Information Minister Jawad Anani, Dr. Kuwari outlined his country's efforts to maintain cooperation with Jordan in information.

Dr. Kuwari noted that Qatar and Jordan had signed an agreement on cooperation in information fields in 1980 and said it was time for the two sides to upgrade the pact.

Israel builds roads ahead of redeployment

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel has begun to build a major road network in the West Bank to enable settlers to avoid Palestinian areas after the army's redeployment, officials said Friday.

A north-south highway will bypass the Palestinian towns of Nablus, Bethlehem and Hebron.

Construction is already well underway between Bethlehem and Hebron including a 900-metre long tunnel to link settlement in the Gush Etzion block directly with occupied Jerusalem.

A Jericho by-pass is also under construction to avoid the self-rule enclave.

Another 320 kilometres of roads are planned at a cost of some \$300 million to allow for the pullout of Palestinian population centres in line with the Palestinian autonomy agreement.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin still has to give a green light for the project, housing ministry officials said.

Some 120,000 Israelis are scattered across the West Bank in about 120 settlements.

A settler spokesman Pinhas Wallerstein voiced strong support for the project which he said would boost security for Israelis and enable the development of their colonies.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres warned Thursday that the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) operating in the Gaza Strip and part of the West Bank could be stripped of its powers if it failed to establish order.

"Israel expects the Palestinian Authority to take the situation in hand," Mr. Peres told Israel radio. "If the Palestinians do not understand that, the powers that they exercise could be taken away from them."

He did not elaborate. But his remarks followed

recent attacks on Israeli soldiers and civilians both in the Gaza Strip and in Israel itself. Israeli authorities have demanded that Palestinian police crack down on militant groups that have claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Mr. Peres also sharply rebuked the head of the PNA, Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat, following a speech Tuesday in which Mr. Arafat — apparently inadvertently — referred to "the Israeli enemy" (see page 2).

"Recent statements by Yasser Arafat give the impression that he is no longer in control of what he says and do damage to the peace process," Mr. Peres said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, before leaving for the United States on Wednesday, also took Mr. Arafat to task.

"The statements attributed to Arafat are absolutely contrary to the Israeli-Palestinian declaration of (peace) principles," Mr. Rabin was quoted as saying in the newspaper Yediot Aharonot.

General Dany Rotschild, Israeli coordinator for the occupied territories, meanwhile threatened to hold up payments for Palestinian police in a gesture aimed at "punishing violations" of the PLO-Israeli accord on Palestinian autonomy.

4,500 more permits

The Israeli military authorities will next week deliver another 4,500 permits to Palestinians, taking the total number allowed in to 28,500, a spokeswoman said Friday.

The permits will be for agricultural workers, divided equally between the Gaza Strip and West Bank, said Captain Hanneh Jeshurun.

A total of 8,500 permits are for agricultural workers and the rest for construction and industry.

Blind cleric rushed to hospital from prison

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, the Egyptian cleric charged with plotting to bomb the United Nations and other landmarks, was rushed to a hospital on Thursday suffering from pneumonia, an aide to the cleric said.

The U.S. Marshals Service, which accompanied him to the hospital, said his condition was "not life threatening."

A spokesman for the service said the cleric is "alert, talking and cooperating with the medical staff."

However, Ahmad Sattar, the sheikh's paralegal, described the situation as more serious. "He's in very bad shape," Mr. Sattar said.

Mr. Sattar said he had spoken with Sheikh Abdul Rahman on Wednesday. "He really couldn't talk. His breathing was very heavy. He was coughing and spitting up blood and running a high fever."

The cleric was removed

from his two-room cell at the federal metropolitan correctional centre in Manhattan at about 5:30 a.m. on Thursday and taken to a hospital, he said.

"MCC medical staff had described Dr. Abdul Rahman as possibly having pneumonia," the Marshals Service said in a statement.

"He is currently being examined and treated in a hospital setting where his condition is described as not life threatening."

Mr. Sattar said Sheikh Abdul Rahman was hesitant to go to the hospital because he wanted to continue to prepare for the Nov. 28 start of jury selection for his trial in U.S. district court in Manhattan.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman and 11 others are accused of conspiring to bomb New York landmarks, including the United Nations headquarters

COLUMN

Scientists claim discovery of Element 110

BERLIN (AP) — Scientists in Germany have claimed discovery of a new element, with atomic number 110, the heaviest ever produced. The presence of the element was proved at 4:39 p.m. on Nov. 9 after days of bombarding billions of lead atoms with billions of nickel atoms in the Unilac accelerator at the heavy ion research centre at Darmstadt in southern Germany, the centre said late Thursday. The international group of scientists that carried out the research was led by Peter Armbruster, a German physicist who is credited with leading teams that produced three other heavy elements at the centre between 1981 and 1984. The centre said a dozen scientists from research centres in Russia, Slovakia and Finland collaborated in discovering the new element, which does not yet have a name. The heaviest element occurring in nature is uranium, with Atomic Number 92. Element 110 existed for only a fraction of a thousandth of a second. But its presence was proved when the apparatus detected an alpha particle, or helium nucleus, that was emitted as the element decayed, the centre said.

Scientist extracts DNA from ancient dinosaur bone

WASHINGTON (R) — A Utah researcher has extracted DNA from an 80-million-year-old dinosaur bone and reconstructed portions of the creature's genetic sequence — a scientific first straight out of the movies. But Brigham Young University scientist Scott Woodward dismisses notions his finding will open the way for the cloning of dinosaurs, the plot of the novel and megablockbuster film Jurassic Park. "I loved the book and I loved the movie. In fact, I just talked to my kids in Jerusalem and they're watching the movie right now," Dr. Woodward said. "We're light years away from anything that might have occurred in Jurassic Park. I'm still looking forward to the transporter in Star Trek," he said. His findings are published in the Nov. 18 edition of Science magazine. Dr. Woodward said the DNA, obtained from bones preserved in a Utah coal mine, was unique and did not appear to be closely related to any modern animals. Theories differ on whether dinosaurs were more closely related to birds or reptiles. "I believe that there could be dinosaur groups that fit into both categories or even a category of neither," he said. DNA, found in cells, is the genetic code that guides the development and growth of plants and animals. The DNA specimen recovered is not the oldest on record. Researchers have previously recovered 125-million-year-old DNA from a weevil preserved in amber. It was not possible to identify the species of dinosaur from the bones, one of which appeared to be a section of a rib. The bones possibly came from two different animals, the article said.

TV presenter raps Britain on cot deaths

LONDON (R) — A British television presenter, whose own son was a "cot death" victim, accused the government of linking the deaths to toxic chemical in fireproof mattresses. A report on Independent Television News linked cot deaths with antimony and other chemicals used to fire-proof mattresses. It says that of 43 victims of cot death (sudden infant death syndrome, or SIDS), more than one-half had raised levels of antimony in their bodies. Anne Diamond, who fronted the government's campaign against cot death after her son died three years ago, discovered that her baby had traces of the toxic chemical in his body. Findings linking toxic chemicals to cot deaths were presented to the government several years ago but officials dismissed it. "Given the fact that they (the government) have been negligent for three years and hundreds of babies might have died of this they should do something about this and very fast," she told Independent Television News.